

HANDOUT 7/24/2022

Are We In A War?

2 Corinthians 10:1-6 (NASB)

¹ Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!

Paul introduces himself, now that they had forced him to do so, with straightforwardness and dignity; and he urged them by the meekness and gentleness of the Christ.

Meekness: Quiet strength. Matthew 11:29- 1 Peter 3:4. And gentleness. 2 Cor.3:18

² I ask that when I am present I need not be bold with the confidence with which I propose to be courageous against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh.

He says, I beg you that I don't have to be bold against anyone.

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,

All who live here on earth can say we walk in the flesh; how few can say we do not *war* according to the flesh, — at least Paul could

⁴ for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

Weapons of Christian warfare- Vine's

Fortress- of those things in which mere human confidence is imposed.

⁵ We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

The Word of God is to replace our fleshly way of thinking.

We are to take control via our will and the Word of God.

⁶ and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

Paul's readiness to use his apostolic authority in punishing disobedience.

If we war not according to flesh, by definition, we must be by *pulling down reasonings and every high thing exalted (or exalting itself thus) and leading captive every thought unto the obedience of the Christ.*