



SECOND CORINTHIANS: A DEFENSE OF MINISTRY

February 27, 2022 // Dr. Ron Jones

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| Outline | 1-7 | 8-9 | 10-13 |
| Focus | Paul Describes His Ministry | Paul Encourages Generosity | Paul Defends His Ministry |
| Key Verse | 4:7 | 9:6 | 12:9 |

“Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends. 2 CORINTHIANS 10:17-18 ESV

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? 2 CORINTHIANS 11:24-29 ESV

Paul Describes His Ministry [1-7]

Paul also views himself and his ministry team as fragile and easily broken _____ . In other words, we are cracked pots through whom the light of the gospel and the glory of God shine (4:1-18).

Paul Encourages Generosity [8-9]

For in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. 2 CORINTHIANS 8:3-5 ESV

By using an _____, Paul encourages the Corinthians to participate in the Jerusalem offering generously when he writes, “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” (9:6).

Paul Defends His Ministry [10-13]

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

2 CORINTHIANS 11:30-33 ESV