

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## "PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTOLIC MINISTRY"

"Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. {19} But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. {20} For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. {21} What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?" (1 Corinthians 4:18-21)

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
March, 2008

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)  
Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman  
Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## "PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTOLIC MINISTRY"

"Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. {19} But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. {20} For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. {21} What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?" (1 Corinthians 4:18-21)

- A1 PAUL'S STATEMENT OF HIS FAITHFUL MINISTRY 1 - 5
- A2 PAUL'S APPEAL FOR A FAITHFUL RESPONSE FROM THE CORINTHIANS 6:1 - 7:16
- A3 PAUL'S FUND-RAISING FOR NEEDY SAINTS 8 - 9
- A4 PAUL'S BOASTING ABOUT HIS AUTHORITY 10 - 13
- A5 PAUL'S EPISTOLARY USE OF HIS AUTHORITY TO MOTIVATE THE CORINTHIANS TO COMPLY BEFORE HIS VISIT 12:14 - 13:14

Major Divisions of 2 Corinthians  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF 2 CORINTHIANS  
Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
March, 2008

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)  
Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE ®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman  
Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## "PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTOLIC MINISTRY"

"Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. {19} But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. {20} For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. {21} What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?" (1 Corinthians 4:18-21)

### **A1 PAUL'S STATEMENT OF HIS FAITHFUL MINISTRY 1 - 5**

B1 Introduction 1:1-11

B2 Paul's Conscientious and Holy Conduct Toward the Corinthians 1:12 - 2:11

B3 Paul's Thanks for God's Leading 2:12-17

B4 Paul's Ministry by the Spirit of the Glorious New Covenant 3:1-18

B5 Paul's Faithful Ministry in Spite of Weakness 4 - 5

### **A2 PAUL'S APPEAL FOR A FAITHFUL RESPONSE FROM THE CORINTHIANS 6:1 - 7:16**

B1 Paul's Appeal for the Corinthians' Faithfulness in View of His Exemplary Service Amid Hardships 6:1-10

B2 Paul's Appeal for the Corinthians to Be Unrestrained toward Him 6:11 - 7:4

B3 Paul's Comfort at Signs of the Corinthians' Faithful Response 7:5-16

### **A3 PAUL'S FUND-RAISING FOR NEEDY SAINTS 8 - 9**

B1 Paul's Urging of the Corinthians to Give to the Needy Saints 8:1-15

B2 Paul's Commendation of Titus and Two Other Collectors of the Prospective Offering 8:16-24

B3 Paul's Desire That the Corinthians Not be Ashamed by Unpreparedness If He Visits Them With Some Macedonians 9:1-5

B4 Paul's Statement of the Benefits of Giving Deeply and Cheerfully 9:6-15

**A4 PAUL'S BOASTING ABOUT HIS AUTHORITY 10 - 13**

- B1 His Readiness to Be Bold with the Corinthians When He Comes 10:1-7
- B2 His Boasting in the Lord about His Authority to Upbuild Them through Rebuking in Person 10:8-18
- B3 His Boasting of His Credentials in Order to Compete with Certain False Apostles 11:16 - 12:13

**A5 PAUL'S EPISTOLARY USE OF HIS AUTHORITY TO MOTIVATE THE CORINTHIANS TO COMPLY BEFORE HIS VISIT 12:14 - 13:14**

- B1 His Financial Policy: His anticipated third visit to be a continuation of his "no-burden" policy 12:14-18
- B2 His Fear: Finding ungodliness in them when he comes 12:19-21
- B3 His Philosophy in Writing: Severity in letter to avoid severity in presence 13:1-10
- B4 His Closing 13:11-14

Condensed Outline of 2 Corinthians  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF 2 CORINTHIANS  
Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
March, 2008

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)  
Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman  
Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## "PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTOLIC MINISTRY"

"Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. {19} But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. {20} For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. {21} What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?" (1 Corinthians 4:18-21)

### **A1 PAUL'S STATEMENT OF HIS FAITHFUL MINISTRY 1 - 5**

#### **B1 Introduction 1:1-11**

C1 Paul's Salutation 1:1-2

C2 Paul's Opening Blessing of the God Who Comforts in Affliction 1:3-11

#### **B2 Paul's Conscientious and Holy Conduct Toward the Corinthians 1:12 - 2:11**

C1 His confidence regarding his conscientious conduct 1:12-14

C2 His denial of vacillation 1:15-22

C3 His insistence that he came not to Corinth in order to spare them 1:23-24

C4 His determination not to come to them in sorrow again 2:1-4

C5 His urging of forgiveness toward the one who had caused the sorrow (cf. 1 Cor. 5:1-5) 2:5-11

#### **B3 Paul's Thanks for God's Leading 2:12-17**

C1 For God's open door from Troas to Macedonia 2:12-13

C2 For God's leading him in triumph in Christ 2:14-17

#### **B4 Paul's Ministry by the Spirit of the Glorious New Covenant 3:1-18**

C1 His letter of commendation--the Corinthians 3:1-3

C2 His adequacy--from God 3:4-5

C3 His relation to the New Covenant in his ministry 3:6-18

#### **B5 Paul's Faithful Ministry in Spite of Weakness 4 - 5**

C1 His faithfulness in ministering the Gospel 4:1-6

C2 His weakness in ministering the Gospel 4:7 - 5:10

C3 His motives in persuading people about Christ 5:11-21

**A2 PAUL'S APPEAL FOR A FAITHFUL RESPONSE FROM THE CORINTHIANS**  
**6:1 - 7:16**

**B1 Paul's Appeal for the Corinthians' Faithfulness in View of His Exemplary Service Amid Hardships** 6:1-10

- C1 His urging of the Corinthians not to receive the grace of God in vain 6:1-2
- C2 His setting an example of suffering on behalf of the ministry (service) for God 6:3-10

**B2 Paul's Appeal for the Corinthians to Be Unrestrained toward Him** 6:11 - 7:4

- C1 To be unrestrained in their affection 6:11-13
- C2 Not to be unequally yoked with unbelievers 6:14 - 7:1
- C3 To make room for him (in their hearts) 7:2-4

**B3 Paul's Comfort at Signs of the Corinthians' Faithful Response** 7:5-16

- C1 Toward his letter 7:5-13a
- C2 Toward Titus' visit 7:13b-16

**A3 PAUL'S FUND-RAISING FOR NEEDY SAINTS** 8 - 9

**B1 Paul's Urging of the Corinthians to Give to the Needy Saints** 8:1-15

- C1 His glowing report of the Macedonians' giving to the saints 8:1-5
- C2 His past urging of Titus to complete the Corinthians' act of giving 8:6
- C3 His epistolary urging of the Corinthians to give to the saints 8:7-15

**B2 Paul's Commendation of Titus and Two Other Collectors of the Prospective Offering** 8:16-24

**B3 Paul's Desire That the Corinthians Not be Ashamed by Unpreparedness If He Visits Them With Some Macedonians** 9:1-5

**B4 Paul's Statement of the Benefits of Giving Deeply and Cheerfully** 9:6-15

- C1 A bountiful harvest 9:6
- C2 The obtaining of God's love 9:7
- C3 Greater productivity in righteousness 9:8-10
- C4 Causing others to thank and glorify God 9:11-13
- C5 Causing others to yearn for the giver more 9:14
- C6 Having a greater appreciation for God's Gift 9:15

**A4 PAUL'S BOASTING ABOUT HIS AUTHORITY 10 - 13**

**B1 His Readiness to Be Bold with the Corinthians When He Comes 10:1-7**

- C1 "Don't force me to be bold with you in person" 10:1-2
- C2 "I am not walking in the flesh but the power of God" 10:3-5
- C3 "We are ready to punish disobedience" 10:6
- C4 "As you are Christ's, so are we" 10:7

**B2 His Boasting in the Lord about His Authority to Upbuild Them through Rebuking in Person 10:8-18**

- C1 The necessity of his boasting: his authority in presence to equal his authority by letter 10:8-11
- C2 The ground of his boasting: his pioneering in bringing them the gospel 10:12-16
- C3 The sphere of his boasting: the Lord 10:17-18

**B3 His Boasting of His Credentials in Order to Compete with Certain False Apostles 11:16 - 12:13**

- C1 His intention to boast 11:16-21
- C2 His Jewish credentials 11:22
- C3 His credentials as a servant of Christ 11:23-33
- C4 His credentials in revelation 12:1-10
- C5 His apostolic credentials - miracles 12:11-13

**A5 PAUL'S EPISTOLARY USE OF HIS AUTHORITY TO MOTIVATE THE CORINTHIANS TO COMPLY BEFORE HIS VISIT 12:14 - 13:14**

**B1 His Financial Policy: His anticipated third visit to be a continuation of his "no-burden" policy 12:14-18**

**B2 His Fear: Finding ungodliness in them when he comes 12:19-21**

**B3 His Philosophy in Writing: Severity in letter to avoid severity in presence 13:1-10**

- C1 His warning: He'll not spare sinners when he comes the third time 13:1-4
- C2 His challenge: They should test themselves to see if they are in the faith 13:5-6

C3 His prayer 13:7-9

C4 His use of authority for upbuilding 13:10

**B4 His Closing 13:11-14**

C1 His exhortation to be made complete 13:11

C2 His greetings 13:12-13

C3 His benediction 13:14

Outline of 2 Corinthians

Based on the ANALYSIS OF 2 CORINTHIANS

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

March, 2008

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)

Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman  
Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))