



Examine Yourself

2 Corinthians 13

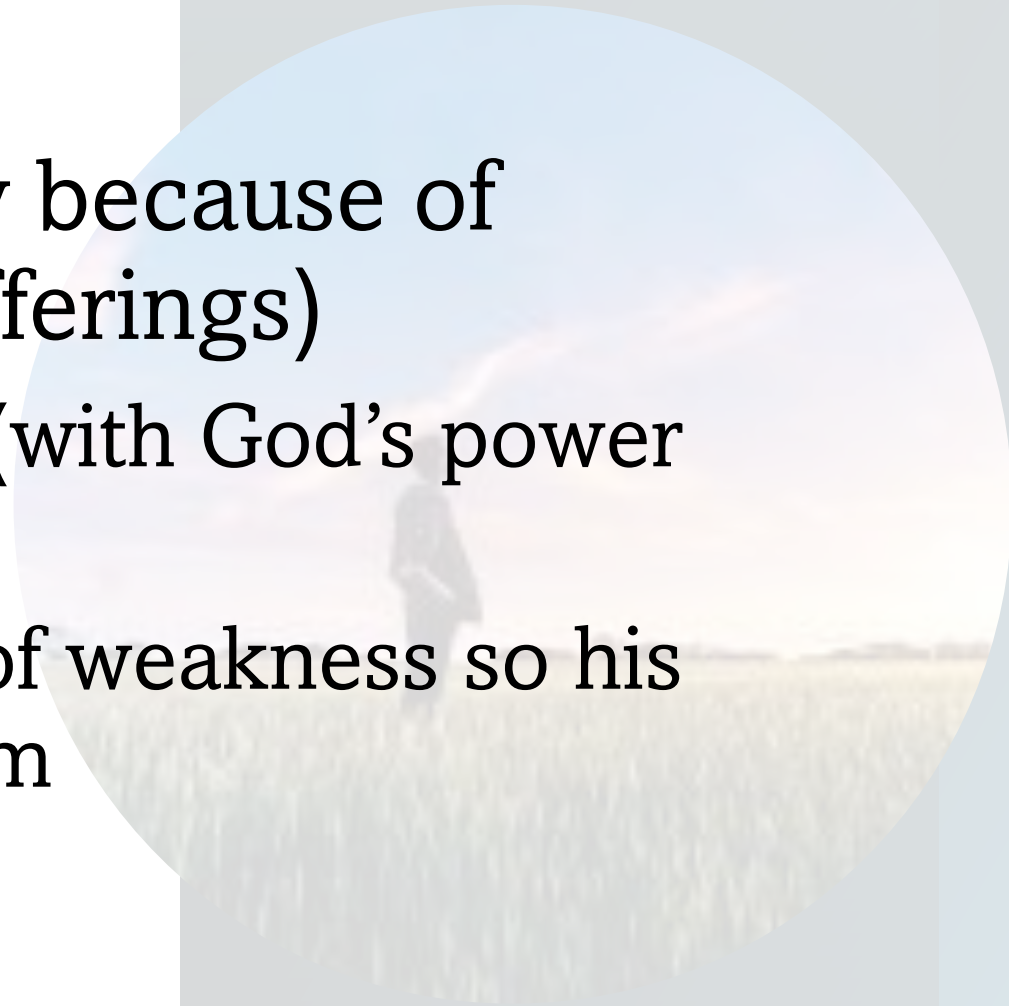
Background 1-4

Coming with Authority

13 This *will be* the third time I am coming to you. “By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” ² I have told you before, and foretell as if I were present the second time, and now being absent ^[a] I write to those who have sinned before, and to all the rest, that if I come again I will not spare— ³ since you seek a proof of Christ speaking in me, who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you. ⁴ For though He was crucified in weakness, yet He lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, but we shall live with Him by the power of God toward you.

Doubting Paul

- Some doubted Paul's authority because of weakness (his appearance, sufferings)
- Christ took the path of weakness (with God's power available) Eph 1:19-21
- Paul like Jesus followed the path of weakness so his power could be used to serve them



Examination 5-6

⁵ Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you ^[b]are disqualified. ⁶ But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.

- Paul's challenge: examine yourselves 1 Cor 11:28
- Testing is necessary to evaluate our status
- Are you in the faith? Is Christ in you? (yes or no)

Expectation 7-10

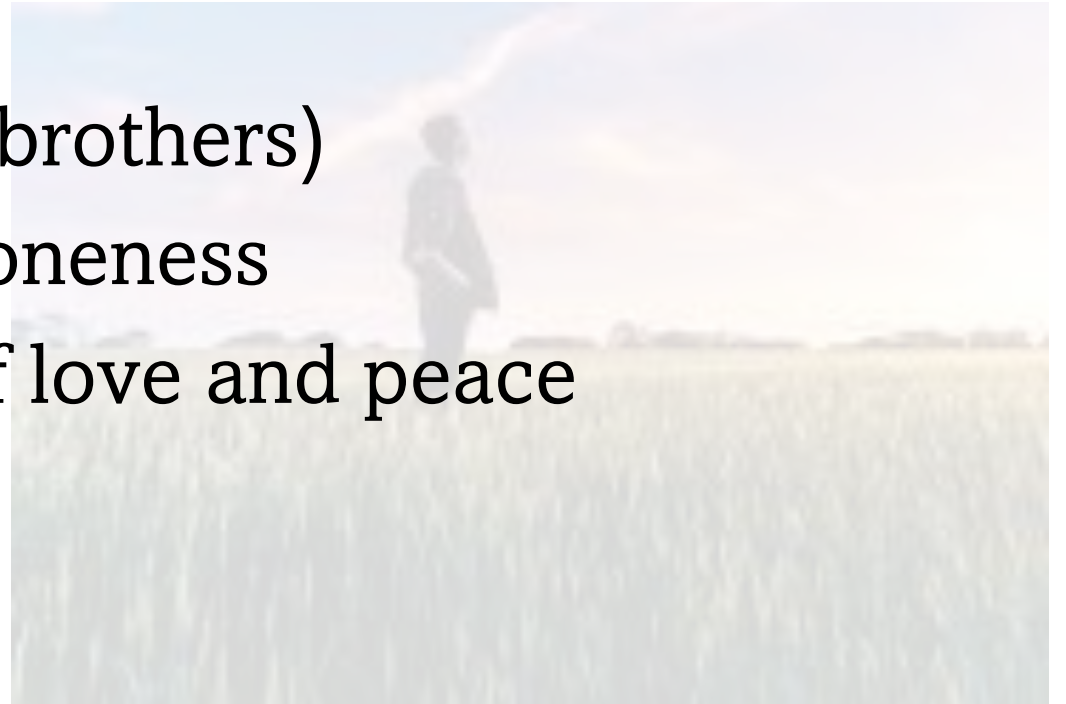
Paul Prefers Gentleness

⁷ Now ^[c]I pray to God that you do no evil, not that we should appear approved, but that you should do what is honorable, though we may seem disqualified. ⁸ For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. ⁹ For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. And this also we pray, that you may be made complete. ¹⁰ Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for edification and not for destruction.

Exhortation 11

11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

- Final call for unity
- Reaffirming his relationship (brothers)
- Strive for completeness and oneness
- Live in peace with the God of love and peace





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