

2 Corinthians
(Chapters 6-13)

2 Corinthians 6:14-16
New Century Version (NCV)
¹⁴ You are not the same as those who do not believe. So do not join yourselves to them. Good and bad do not belong together. Light and darkness cannot share together.¹⁵ How can Christ and Belial, the devil, have any agreement? What can a believer have together with a nonbeliever? ¹⁶ The temple of God cannot have any agreement with idols, and we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live with them and walk with them. And I will be their God, and they will be my people."

2 Corinthians 6:14-16
GOD'S WORD Translation (GW)
¹⁴ Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers. Can right and wrong be partners? Can light have anything in common with darkness? ¹⁵ Can Christ agree with the devil? Can a believer share life with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ Can God's temple contain false gods? Clearly, we are the temple of the living God. As God said, "I will live and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

2 Corinthians 6:17-18
New Century Version (NCV)

¹⁷ "Leave those people,
and be separate, says the Lord.
Touch nothing that is unclean,
and I will accept you." — *Isaiah 52:11*;
Ezekiel 20:34, 41

¹⁸ "I will be your father,
and you will be my sons and daughters,
says the Lord Almighty." — *2 Samuel 7:14*

2 Corinthians 7:1
New Century Version (NCV)

¹ Dear friends, we have these
promises from God, so we should
make ourselves pure—free from
anything that makes body or soul
unclean. We should try to become
holy in the way we live, because we
respect God.

Romans 12:1-2
The Message (MSG)

¹⁻² So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take
your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-
to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God
as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best
thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to
your culture that you fit into it without even thinking.
Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from
the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you,
and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you,
always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God
brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity
in you.

2 Corinthians 7:10
New Living Translation (NLT)
¹⁰ For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

2 Corinthians 8:1-4
New Living Translation (NLT)
⁸ Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. ² They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.
³ For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. ⁴ They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 8:6-7
New Century Version (NCV)
⁶ So we asked Titus to help you finish this special work of grace since he is the one who started it. ⁷ You are rich in everything—in faith, in speaking, in knowledge, in truly wanting to help, and in the love you learned from us. In the same way, be strong also in the grace of giving.

2 Corinthians 8:9

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁹You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

Matthew 27:57

New Living Translation (NLT)

The Burial of Jesus

⁵⁷As evening approached, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea who had become a follower of Jesus.

Mark 12:41

New Living Translation (NLT)

The Widow's Offering

⁴¹Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts.

Luke 18:23
New Living Translation (NLT)
²³ But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich.

Ephesians 2:4-5
New Living Translation (NLT)
⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

2 Corinthians 8:10-12
New Living Translation (NLT)
¹⁰ Here is my advice: It would be good for you to finish what you started a year ago. Last year you were the first who wanted to give, and you were the first to begin doing it. ¹¹ Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have. ¹² Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have.

2 Corinthians 9:5-11

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁵ So I thought I should send these brothers ahead of me to make sure the gift you promised is ready. But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given grudgingly.

⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.

⁷ You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." ⁸ And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

⁹ As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor.

Their good deeds will be remembered forever." (*Psalms 112*)

¹⁰ For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

¹¹Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

2 Corinthians 10:1-2
New Living Translation (NLT)
Paul Defends His Authority
10 Now I, Paul, appeal to you with the gentleness and kindness of Christ— though I realize you think I am timid in person and bold only when I write from far away. ²Well, I am begging you now so that when I come I won't have to be bold with those who think we act from human motives.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5
GOD'S WORD Translation (GW)
³Of course we are human, but we don't fight like humans.⁴The weapons we use in our fight are not made by humans. Rather, they are powerful weapons from God. With them we destroy people's defenses, that is, their arguments ⁵and all their intellectual arrogance that oppose the knowledge of God. We take every thought captive so that it is obedient to Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:1
New Living Translation (NLT)

I hope you will put up with a little more of my foolishness. Please bear with me.

2 Corinthians 11:4-5
New Living Translation (NLT)

⁴You happily put up with whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach a different Jesus than the one we preach, or a different kind of Spirit than the one you received, or a different kind of gospel than the one you believed.

⁵But I don't consider myself inferior in any way to these "super apostles" who teach such things.

2 Corinthians 11:21
New Living Translation (NLT)

²¹I'm ashamed to say that we've been too "weak" to do that! But whatever they dare to boast about—I'm talking like a fool again—I dare to boast about it, too.

2 Corinthians 11:23-25
New Living Translation (NLT)
²³Are they servants of Christ? I know I sound like a madman, but I have served him far more! I have worked harder, been put in prison more often, been whipped times without number, and faced death again and again. ²⁴Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea.

2 Corinthians 11:28
New Living Translation (NLT)
²⁸Then, besides all this, I have the daily burden of my concern for all the churches.

2 Corinthians 12:1-5
New Living Translation (NLT)
¹²This boasting will do no good, but I must go on. I will reluctantly tell about visions and revelations from the Lord.²I was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago. Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don't know—only God knows. ³Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. But I do know ⁴that I was caught up to paradise and heard things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell.
⁵That experience is worth boasting about, but I'm not going to do it. I will boast only about my weaknesses.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁷ even though I have received such wonderful revelations from God. So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud.

⁸ Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away.⁹ Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.¹⁰ That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

"Messenger"

186 times in the Greek

179 times it is translated "angel"

7 times it is translated "messenger"

Buffet:

signifies "to strike with clenched hands, to buffet with the fist" (*kolaphos*, "a fist"), [Mat 26:67](#); [Mar 14:65](#); [1Cr 4:11](#); [2Cr 12:7](#); [1Pe 2:20](#).

Biblical usage:

To strike with the fist, give one a blow with the fist; to maltreat, treat with violence and contumely.

It is present tense signifying recurrent action, indicating a constantly repeated attack.

Mark 14:65

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁶⁵Then some of them began to spit at him, and they blindfolded him and beat him with their fists. "Prophecy to us," they jeered. And the guards slapped him as they took him away.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

The Message (MSG)

⁷⁻¹⁰Because of the extravagance of those revelations, and so I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty! At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then he told me,

My grace is enough; it's all you need.

My strength comes into its own in your weakness. Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size—abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10
 GOD'S WORD Translation (GW)
⁷ especially because of the excessive number of revelations that I've had.

Therefore, to keep me from becoming conceited, I am forced to deal with a recurring problem. That problem, Satan's messenger, torments me to keep me from being conceited. ⁸ I begged the Lord three times to take it away from me. ⁹ But he told me: "My kindness is all you need. My power is strongest when you are weak." So I will brag even more about my weaknesses in order that Christ's power will live in me. ¹⁰ Therefore, I accept weakness, mistreatment, hardship, persecution, and difficulties suffered for Christ. It's clear that when I'm weak, I'm strong.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10
 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

⁷ Of course, I am now referring to the wonderful things I saw. One of Satan's angels was sent to make me suffer terribly, so that I would not feel too proud.

⁸ Three times I begged the Lord to make this suffering go away. ⁹ But he replied, "My kindness is all you need. My power is strongest when you are weak." So if Christ keeps giving me his power, I will gladly brag about how weak I am. ¹⁰ Yes, I am glad to be weak or insulted or mistreated or to have troubles and sufferings, if it is for Christ. Because when I am weak, I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:11-12
 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹¹ You have made me act like a fool—boasting like this. You ought to be writing commendations for me, for I am not at all inferior to these "super apostles," even though I am nothing at all. ¹² When I was with you, I certainly gave you proof that I am an apostle. For I patiently did many signs and wonders and miracles among you.

2 Corinthians 12:19

New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁹ Perhaps you think we're saying these things just to defend ourselves.

No, we tell you this as Christ's servants, and with God as our witness. Everything we do, dear friends, is to strengthen you.

2 Corinthians 13:3-4

New Living Translation (NLT)

³ I will give you all the proof you want that Christ speaks through me. Christ is not weak when he deals with you; he is powerful among you. ⁴ Although he was crucified in weakness, he now lives by the power of God. We, too, are weak, just as Christ was, but when we deal with you we will be alive with him and will have God's power.

2 Corinthians 13:9

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁹ We are glad to seem weak if it helps show that you are actually strong.

We pray that you will become mature.
