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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, July 5, 2026

2 Corinthians 10:1-4

Title: Fighting an enemy you can't see

Paul begins Chapter 10 with a stark change — the topic switches from giving to yet another defense of his conduct. We'll discuss what drove his conduct, and the battle he and we are in.

**The sentiment from 2 Corinthians
10:1-2 about Paul's behavior is really
his critics' opinion. They think he is
carrying himself according to the flesh,
instead of being led by the Spirit.**

**Paul wrote strong, bold letters, critics
acknowledged, but he was
comparatively meek and quiet when he
was with them in person. Paul was
aware of their views, and he
acknowledged so here.**

The critics took Paul's kindness for weakness, but there is nothing wrong with meeekness or gentleness. Those qualities in many fly in the face of the world's behavior.

**There's nothing wrong meekness or
gentleness. Jesus Christ was gentle, and
He was meek: Isaiah 53:7-9, Matthew
11:25-30, Matthew 26:47-54, Philippians
2:7-8**

**Again, there's nothing wrong meekness
or gentleness. There's a reference to
meekness for wives relative to their
marriage: 1 Peter 3:1-4**

Paul uses that first point regarding the flesh to segue into a larger, second point: we live (walk) in physical flesh but aren't fighting a physical battle with sin. Instead, it's a spiritual one.

**It should come as no surprise that since
that war isn't a physical one, the
weapons needed aren't physical either.**

**Our human flesh and the Spirit we have
are in constant conflict: Galatians
5:19-26**

**Believers are to walk by the Spirit, and
no longer by their flesh, which is the
same point that Paul was making:**

Romans 8:1-10

You can't see the devil, but his influence is throughout the world. Get familiar with what you need to be prepared.

Ephesians 6:10-17; Isaiah 59:15-19

**You can't see our enemy, but the
scriptures direct us to be vigilant
nonetheless: 1 Peter 5:6-11**

Our Lord Jesus Christ had meekness and gentleness in abundance. Those qualities are outputs of the Spirit we have — you may relate to that to people seeing you as weak as a result.

We have some powerful weapons at our disposal for this constant conflict between the Spirit and this physical flesh we have. Make yourself familiar not only with the weapons, but the importance of this war, too.

**Paul will make an appeal to his
apostolic authority further into 2
Corinthians 10. It's God stands behind
the work of him and others. We'll
consider what that means in two weeks,
on July 19.**