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Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, August 2, 2026

2 Corinthians 10:12-18

Title: Whom does the Lord commend?

What you'll hear today:

- **Whose commendation matters?**
- **How should you and I boast?**
- **The so-called limits of Gentile ministry**

There's a difference between those who commend themselves, and those whom the LORD commends (2 Corinthians 10:12). The former group is without understanding, and without the wisdom of God.

**Paul already addressed the idea of those
who commend themselves earlier in our
book, remember: 2 Corinthians 3:1-7**

**Those who commend themselves set up
a false standard that they (of course)
met: Proverbs 26:12, Matthew 21:23-32**

**The unbelieving world badly needs
God's wisdom (in His Son Christ), and
they need understanding: Proverbs
4:1-9**

Not only are those who commend themselves wrong, but their focus is misguided. Men are fickle, and frail, and finite, and their commendation does not ultimately matter.

**Commendation from men does not
ultimately matter. Avoid those who
commend themselves: Luke 18:9-14**

**Commendation from men does not
ultimately matter. Paul's concern was
what the Lord thought, not man: 1
Corinthians 4:1-5**

Pau mentions a certain boasting in 2 Corinthians 10:17-18. Boasting has an understandably negative connotation.

Who can rightly boast?

**Let your boasting (your glorying) be
toward the one true God. Boast freely,
but do so in the Lord: 1 Corinthians
1:21-31**

**Paul is referring to an OT concept in
our 2 Corinthians passage: Jeremiah
9:23-26**

**Who can rightly boast? Boast freely, but
do so in the Lord. Paul boasted, but look
at how he did so: Galatians 6:14-18**

**It's God's commendation that matters,
not mere men who can change how they
feel about you at a moment's notice.**

**God the Father commended His Son,
and those who will be commended will
point to that same Son: Matthew
3:13-17**

**It's God's commendation that matters.
Jesus Christ received honor from His
Father, and did not receive honor from
men: John 5:33-46**

**It's God's commendation that matters.
Paul gave God alone the credit for his
ministry: Romans 15:14-21**

The thought that some had was that Paul and the others had exceeded their authority (2 Corinthians 10:13-16) and that their apostolic ministry did not extend out to where they were.

**Paul was an apostle to the Gentiles: Acts
9:10-19, Acts 22:12-21**

**Remember that the Old Testament tells
of a coming Messiah that would bring
justice to the Gentiles. These apostles
pointed to that same Messiah: Isaiah
42:1-4**

Boasting or glorying rightly means giving credit where it's actually due — to our Lord. All that we have in this world in the next, He provided, chiefly in His Son. We're nothing apart from Him.

Self-commendation is misguided, and those who commend themselves have been deceived. God's approval matters, and that's where our focus is. The world has no use for that, and they need understanding.

**Wisdom and understanding help you
mark and avoid false teachers. We'll
discuss and more next week in chapter
11, Lord willing.**