

2 Corinthians Series: "Learning to Lean on God"

"Answering His Critics"

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2 Corinthians 10:1-6

4.25.10

Introduction:

- A. 2 Corinthians has three major _____:
1. Chapters _____ - A mild defense of Paul's apostleship.
 2. Chapters _____ - Their participation in the special collection.
 3. Chapters _____ - A strong defense of Paul's apostleship.

I. Understanding the Word

- A. First criticism of Paul - he was _____ when absent and _____ when present.
- B. Second criticism of Paul - he conducted himself in a _____ manner.
- C. Paul's opponents knew that one of the most successful ways to undermine his effectiveness was to cast _____ on the genuineness of his _____.
- D. Paul challenged them to think about the _____ that were being used for judgment and commendation.
- E. Paul concluded by challenging them to confine their _____ to the right _____.

II. Applying the Word

- A. We must accept the fact that _____ is a part of life.
1. We can take it too _____ and allow it to _____ us.
 2. We might not take it seriously enough, and so we don't _____ from it. (Prov. 19:20; 12:1)
 3. When we are criticized, we should:
 - a. _____ to it.
 - b. _____ your defensiveness and your need to defend.
 - c. _____ from it.
 - d. _____ it go.
- B. We must learn to evaluate things by the right _____.
- C. We must learn to seek _____ (Gal. 1:10; 2 Th. 2:4)

Answer Key: Intro. A. sections. A.1. 1-7. A.2. 8-9. A.3. 10-13. I.A. bold, weak. I.B. worldly. I.C. doubt, apostleship. I.D. standards. I.E. boasting, thing. II.A. criticism. II.A.1. seriously, stop. II.A.2. benefit. II.3.a. listen. II.3.b. limit. II.3.c. learn. II.3.d. let. II.B. standards. II.C. God's, approval.