

2 Corinthians



Power in Weakness

“Looking up in down times”

2 Corinthians 2:12-17

12When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, 13my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia. 2 Corinthians 2:12-13

The main art of spiritual living is to know how to handle yourself. You have to take yourself in hand, you have to address yourself, preach to yourself, question yourself. You must say to your soul: ‘Why are thou cast down’ – what business have you to be disquieted?

You must turn on yourself, upbraid yourself, exhort yourself, and say to yourself: “Hope thou in God” instead of muttering in this depressed unhappy way.

The essence of this matter is to understand that this self of ours, this other man with us, has got to be handled. Do not listen to him; turn on him; speak to him, upbraid him, exhort him, encourage him, remind him of what you know,

instead of listening placidly to him and allowing him to drag you down and depress you. And then you must go on to remind yourself of God, who God is, and what God has done, and what God has pledged Himself to do.

David Martyn Lloyd-Jones, Spiritual Depression

**Paul gives God thanks
because...**

1. God is in control – vs. 14

***But thanks be to God, who in Christ
always leads us in triumphal
procession - 2 Corinthians 2:14***

2. The promise of victory – 2 Corinthians 2:14

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. 2 Corinthians 2:14 ESV

3. We influence others through Christ -

and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. 15For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, 2 Cor. 2:14-15

***to one a fragrance from death to death, to
the other a fragrance from life to life.***

2 Corinthians 2:16

**4. For His empowering
Presence in his life and
ministry – 2 Corinthians 2:16-17**

Who is sufficient for these things? 17For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ. 2 Corinthians 2:16-17

***But thanks be to God, who gives
us the victory through our Lord
Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57***

Personal Application questions:

How can you look up in down times?

What things can you give thanks for in your life?

2 Corinthians



Power in Weakness