

Paul's Emphasis: Letter & Deed vs Bodily Presence and Speech

(2 Corinthians 10:10-11)

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2 Corinthians 10:10-11

"For *his letters*, say they, *are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible*. Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present." KJV

'For someone is saying, "His letters are impressive and forceful, but his bodily presence is weak and his speech contemptible." Someone like this should take note of the following: What we say by letter when we are absent is what we will do when present!' ISV

Paul was accused of having a weak personal appearance and of being a poor speaker. "He's not much to look at." Someone was saying. "He's not much to listen to."

Paul's defense is that exactly what he says by letter is what he will do when he is with them. He may not have that charismatic flare, that captures and impresses audiences, but what he is in letter he is also in deed. Therefore, if his letters *are* in fact "weighty and powerful" then so are his deeds. His actions line-up with with his written words. What he *does* is powerful, even though he may not be much to look at, or be the greatest speaker.

What Paul was being accused of:

- "He's not much to look at."
- "He's not much to listen to."

Paul's accuser:

- values how a person looks and what they sound like
- judges by outward/ physical senses
- judges by outward appearance
- is impressed by what something sounds and looks like
- is impressed by looks, appearances and speeches
- is impressed by the presentation of things

Paul's defense:

- What we say in written word while away we will do while present!
- Our actions line up with our weighty and powerful words.

Paul Values:

- words and actions
- authenticity
- not just the way something is presented, but what is being presented
- being what he is in word also in deed

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