

Boasting in The Lord

2 Corinthians 12:2-6 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows— 4 was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

The word for boast is the Greek word *καυχάομαι* - **kauchaomai** means I boast, glory. Boast (24), boasted (1), boasting (3), boasts (2), exult (3), glory (2), take pride (1).

2 Corinthians 10:7-8 7 You are looking at things as they are outwardly. If anyone is confident in himself that he is Christ's, let him consider this again within himself, that just as he is Christ's, so also are we. 8 For even if I **boast** somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not be put to shame,

2 Corinthians 10:12-15 12 For we are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who **commend themselves**; but when they measure **themselves** by **themselves** and compare **themselves** with **themselves**, they are without understanding.

Themselves USED 5 TIMES in one sentence!!!

13 But we will not **boast** beyond our measure, but within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you.

14 For we are not overextending ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we were the first to come even as far as you in the gospel of Christ; 15 not **boasting** beyond our measure, that is, in other men's labors, but with the hope that as your faith grows, we will be, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you,

It is clear some leaders were boasting in what other people had accomplished and they "themselves" were taking the credit.

15 But we will not **boast** beyond our measure, but within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you. 14 For we are not overextending ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we were the first to come even as far as you in the gospel of Christ; 15 not **boasting** beyond our measure, that is, in other men's labors, but with the hope that as your faith grows, we will be, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you, 16 so as to preach the gospel even to the regions beyond you, and not to **boast** in what has been accomplished in the sphere of another. 17 But he who **boasts** is to **boast** in the Lord. 18 For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

Verse 17 is such a key verse, it is not that boasting is of itself wrong, but rather who ultimately is the focus of the glory and credit.

2 Corinthians 11:3-5 3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. 4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully. 5 For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.

So here Paul is again establishing his authority as a true Apostle of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 11:10

10 As the truth of Christ is in me, this **boasting** of mine will not be stopped in the regions of Achaia.

2 Corinthians 11:12 But what I am doing I will continue to do, so that I may cut off opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the matter about which they are **boasting**.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14 No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

2 Corinthians 11:16-18 16 Again I say, let no one think me foolish; but if you do, receive me even as foolish, so that I also may **boast** a little. 17 What I am saying, I am not saying as the Lord would, but as in foolishness, in this confidence of **boasting**. 18 Since many **boast according to the flesh**, I will boast also.

2 Corinthians 11:30 If I have to **boast**, I will **boast** of what pertains to my weakness.

2 Corinthians 12:1 Boasting is necessary (***bear in mind he has just done that from his own flesh perspective in the previous context-Chapter 11***), though it is not profitable; **BUT** I will go on to **visions** and **revelations** of the Lord.

Peter.

Acts 11:5 “I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object coming down like a great sheet lowered by four corners from the sky; and it came right down to me,

Paul.

Acts 16:9-10 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

John.

Revelation 9:17 And this is how I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone. 18 A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths.

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows— 4 was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

Ezekiel 8:3 He stretched out the form of a hand and caught me by a lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven **and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem**, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the idol of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy, was located.

2 Corinthians 12:5 On behalf of such a man **I** will **boast**; but on **my own** behalf **I** will not **boast**, except in regard to **my** weaknesses.

6 For if **I** do wish to **boast** **I** will not be foolish, for **I** will be speaking the truth; but **I** refrain from this, **so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me.**

2 Corinthians 12:7-12 7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the **revelations**, for this reason, to keep **me** from **exalting myself**, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—**to keep me from exalting myself!** 8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. 9 And He has said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.**” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather **boast** about **my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.** 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

11 I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually I should have been commended by you, **for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I am a nobody.** 12 **The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.**