

## "Lest I Should Be Exalted"

Introduction: Pride should never be a part of the ministry. When we begin to think highly of ourselves, God has His ways of keeping our feet on the ground.

- I. Choosing To Glory In \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 12:1-10)
  - A. Paul just finished telling of the \_\_\_\_\_ times in his life.
  - B. It is never a good thing to \_\_\_\_\_, but we can boast in the Lord and tell what He has done in our lives (1 Cor. 1:31; Ps. 34:2).
  - C. Paul goes back fourteen years to a time before he began his \_\_\_\_\_ journeys.
  - D. God may allow us to have mountain-top \_\_\_\_\_ at times, but we cannot stay up there for long; we must go back down into the valley to minister to those in need.
  - E. The mountain-top experiences are not meant to \_\_\_\_\_ us up, but to give glory to God and encourage us.
  - F. God will see to it that we keep our feet on the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - G. Difficulties are meant to keep us \_\_\_\_\_ and dependent on the Lord.
  - H. What Satan means for our destruction, God allows for our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - I. God doesn't always give us what we \_\_\_\_\_, but rather what we \_\_\_\_\_.
  - J. God's grace can carry us through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ trial.
  - K. The \_\_\_\_\_ we are in ourselves, the stronger we will be in Christ's power (Gal. 2:20).
- II. Confirmation of Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 12:11-13:10)
  - A. The church of Corinth should have stood up for Paul's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. God did \_\_\_\_\_ the ministry of the apostles with signs and wonders (Acts 5:12; 14:3).
  - C. The only fault which could be laid against Paul was that he was too \_\_\_\_\_ to the church of Corinth—which is no fault at all.
  - D. The desire of a true pastor is the well-being of the flock, not what he can \_\_\_\_\_ from the church.
  - E. "Paul was more interested in \_\_\_\_\_ than he was in things" (MacDonald).
  - F. Sin is the cause of all \_\_\_\_\_ in the local church.
  - G. Their own salvation was \_\_\_\_\_ enough concerning Paul—he led them to Christ.
- III. Closing (2 Cor. 13:11-14)
  - A. God wants the local church to be \_\_\_\_\_, unified, comforted, and peaceful.
  - B. Everything we need is found in the \_\_\_\_\_.

Conclusion: Throughout this letter we have seen the heart of Paul for God's people. Do we have that same heart for our brothers and sisters in Christ? Do we care about our local church as Paul cared for the church of Corinth? May God give us that kind of heart!