

# **En Garde!**

**A Call to Arms Against Recalcitrant Rebels**

**II Corinthians 10:1-6**

**Proverbs 21:22**

**Heb. 4:11-13**

## The 'Back-story' behind 10:1-6

- A determined core of false-apostles who infiltrated the church, rejecting both Paul and the Gospel message
- They had already influenced a trusted spiritual leader to lead a revolt Paul...
- The church and the leader then came to godly repentance and were restored! PTL!
- Yet the core of the opposition still remains...
- Paul to the church: *Don't make me come to do battle – I'm calling you to discipline them.*

## The 'Back-story' behind 10:1-6

### A few details brought to light...

- The slurs and charges... vs. 1b, 2b
  - He is a weak, spineless, insipid coward...
  - He is worldly, carnal – carrying out his ministry work in an unspiritual manner...

## The 'Back-story' behind 10:1-6

### A few details brought to light...

- The slurs and charges... vs. 1b, 2b
- Meekness/gentleness yet ready to punish?!
  - Gentle Jesus, meek and mild...
  - Jesus with eyes of fire and a sword in mouth...
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Coming & 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming!
  - See II Peter 3:8-10 and Roman 11:22

## The 'Back-story' behind 10:1-6

### A few details brought to light...

- The slurs and charges... vs. 1b, 2b
- Meekness/gentleness yet ready to punish?!
- Storming strongholds, taking captives vs. 4-5
  - *A wise man attacks the city of the mighty and pulls down the strongholds in which they trust.*  
Proverbs 21:22
  - Strongholds – sinful patterns of mind and heart that we use to resist and keep God and His ways at a safe distance.

## The 'Back-story' behind 10:1-6

A few details brought to light...

Applying the truth to life...

- *Do not mistake God's longsuffering patience as indifference to sin...*

**Rom 11:22**

- *What are the strongholds in your soul that must be destroyed and brought captive to Christ?*

**Prov 21:22**