

Destroying the Fortified Places Class Handout

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NASB

- (4) for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
(5) *We are* destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

"powerful" = *dúnata* = to be strong and powerful, able to produce, the power of creation and explosion. It is a power that enables us to say through the Holy Spirit, "It is possible!"

"destruction" = *katháiresis* = a Noun meaning "demolition, overthrow, subjugation."

"destroying" = *kathairoúntes* = a Present Participle meaning "demolishing, overthrowing, subjugating." These two words, destruction and destroying, are related and describe what remains afterwards—total devastation.

"fortresses" = *ochuromáton* = a fortified place, an entrenchment for holding position while under attack. The Spirit is after are the fortresses inside of us which are resisting the government of Christ.

"speculations" = from *logísmos*, a word defining the natural reasoning power of the mind. Until the Holy Spirit takes control over this, it remains dangerous in us.

There are two kinds of strongholds: *speculations* and *every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God*. While Christ finds resistance from these, seducing spirits find ready access.

Nine "lofty things raised up against the knowledge of God" in the book of II Corinthians

1. Holding unforgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 NASB (10) But one whom you forgive anything, I *forgive* also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, *I did it* for your sakes in the presence of Christ, (11) so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

2. Holding hidden things of shame

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 NASB (1) Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, (2) but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3. Walking in craftiness (deceit)

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 NASB (1) Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, (2) but we have renounced the things hidden because of

shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

4. Adulterating the word of God (handling the word deceitfully)

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 NASB (1) Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, **(2)** but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

5. Preoccupied by the things that are seen

2 Corinthians 4:18 NASB (18) while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

6. Take pride in appearance

2 Corinthians 5:12 NASB (12) We are not again commending ourselves to you but *are* giving you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you will have *an answer* for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart.

7. Living for yourself

2 Corinthians 5:15 NASB (15) and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

8. Restrained by our own affections

2 Corinthians 6:12 NASB (12) You are not restrained by us, but you are restrained in your own affections.

9. Fraud

2 Corinthians 7:2 NASB Make room for us *in your hearts*; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.