

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for September 18, 2011**

**The Criteria Upon Which Apostolic Boasting Rests**  
**2 Corinthians 10:12**

Paul in 2 Corinthians 10:12-18 sought to communicate to the unrepentant, as well as to those who held sway over them, the criteria upon which apostolic boasting rests.

Those possessing true apostolic authority will not boast improperly (2 Corinthians 10:12).

Paul's statement, that he would not be so bold as to class or compare himself with those who commend themselves, should be understood as an ironic statement.

The Apostle through his ironic statement communicated to his readers that though he was bold, he was unwilling to be as bold as his opponents in engaging in an unacceptable form of self-commendation.

Self-commendation that is based on God's standards and intended to exalt God is acceptable, but self-commendation that is not based on God standards and not intended to exalt God is unacceptable.

An acceptable expression of self-commendation based on God's standards and intended to exalt God can be found in 2 Corinthians 1:12.

The word "holiness" (HAGIOTES) refers to moral purity.

The word "sincerity" (EILIKRINEIA) is a combination of two Greek words, one meaning "sunlight" and the other meaning "to judge."

Paul called his sincerity godly because God was its object and its source (1 Corinthians 15:10; Colossians 1:29).

An unacceptable expression of self-commendation, or in other words boasting, can be found in 2 Corinthians 10:12.

The self-commendation of Paul's opponents was based not on God's standards of measurement but on their own standards as measured by themselves.

May God give us the grace to see ourselves as God sees us and to measure ourselves as God would measure us, to the praise of His glory.