
2 Corinthians 12:1-6

Paul's Forbearance

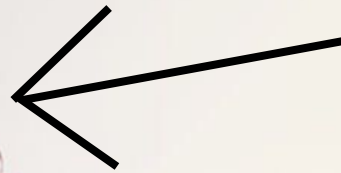
Context

Paul's Defense of His Apostleship

- Some Corinthians did not support Paul's authority. Some of the judaizers accusations:
 - No letters of Commendation: 2 Cor 3:1
 - Weren't impressed with his appearance: 2 Cor 10:10
 - They claim Paul walked in the flesh: 2 Cor 10:2

Summarize the Context:

- Paul didn't glory after the flesh as they did.
 - "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?..."
2 Cor 10:7
 - "Seeing that many glory after the flesh..." 2 Cor 11:18
 - Here is a list of some things the Corinthians valued in a leader: 2 Cor 11:22-29, 32-33
 - Paul spent many chapters and verses defending his apostleship.
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2 Cor 12:1-6

2 Cor 12:1

It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

2 Cor 12:1

- Visions: an apparition.
 - Some of Paul's visions:
 - Acts: 9:3-8; 9:12; 16:9; 18:9-10; 22:17-21; 23:11; 27:23-24

2 Cor 12:1

- Revelations: when something is revealed, an appearing
 - Galations 1:11-12
 - Eph 3:1-5

2 Cor 12:2

- I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

2 Cor 12:2

- I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago,
(whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.
 - 2 Cor 5:17

2 Cor 12:2

- I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago,
(whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.
 - In the body: Acts 22:17-18
 - Out of the body: 2 Cor 5:6-8
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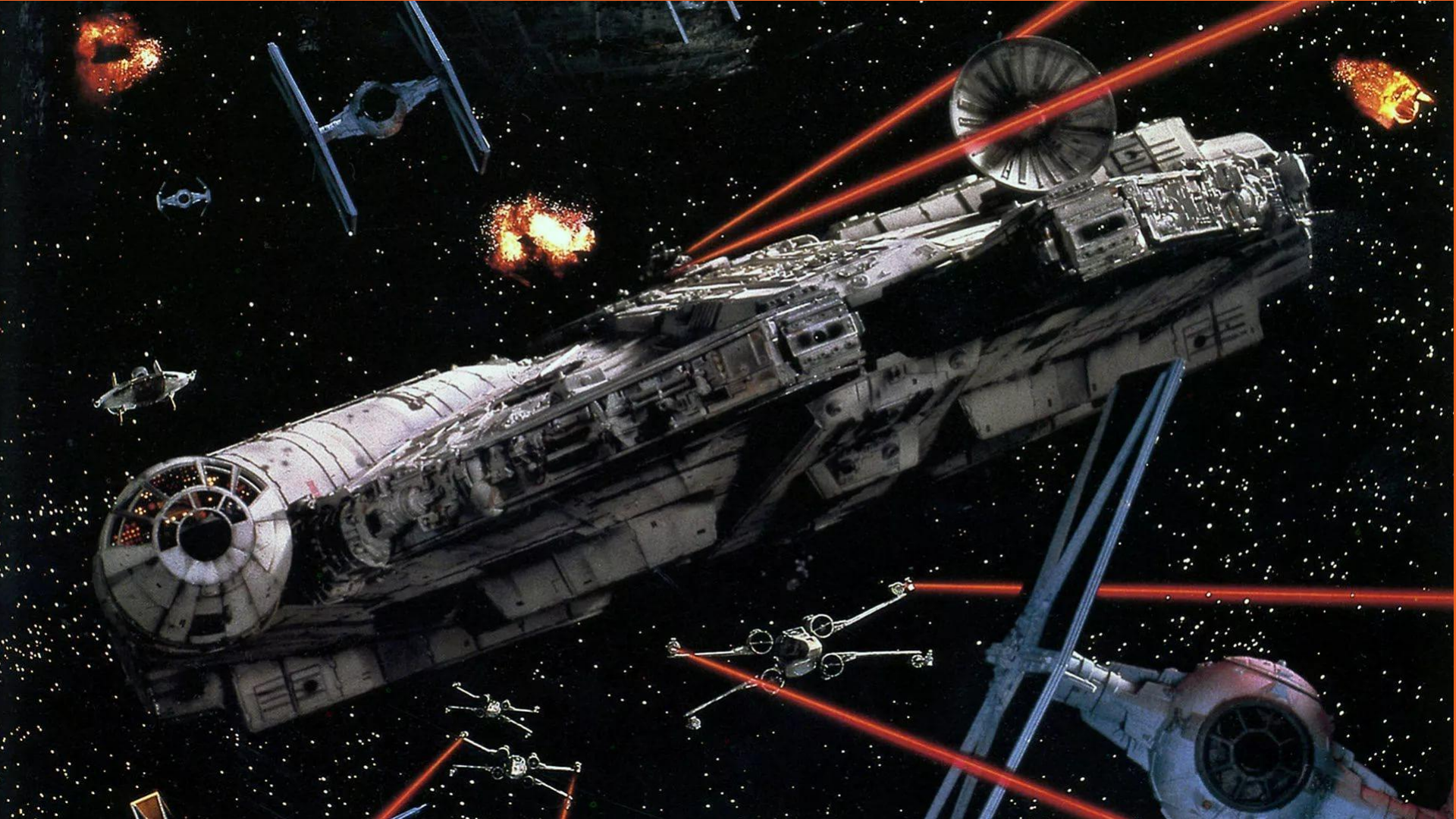
2 Cor 12:2

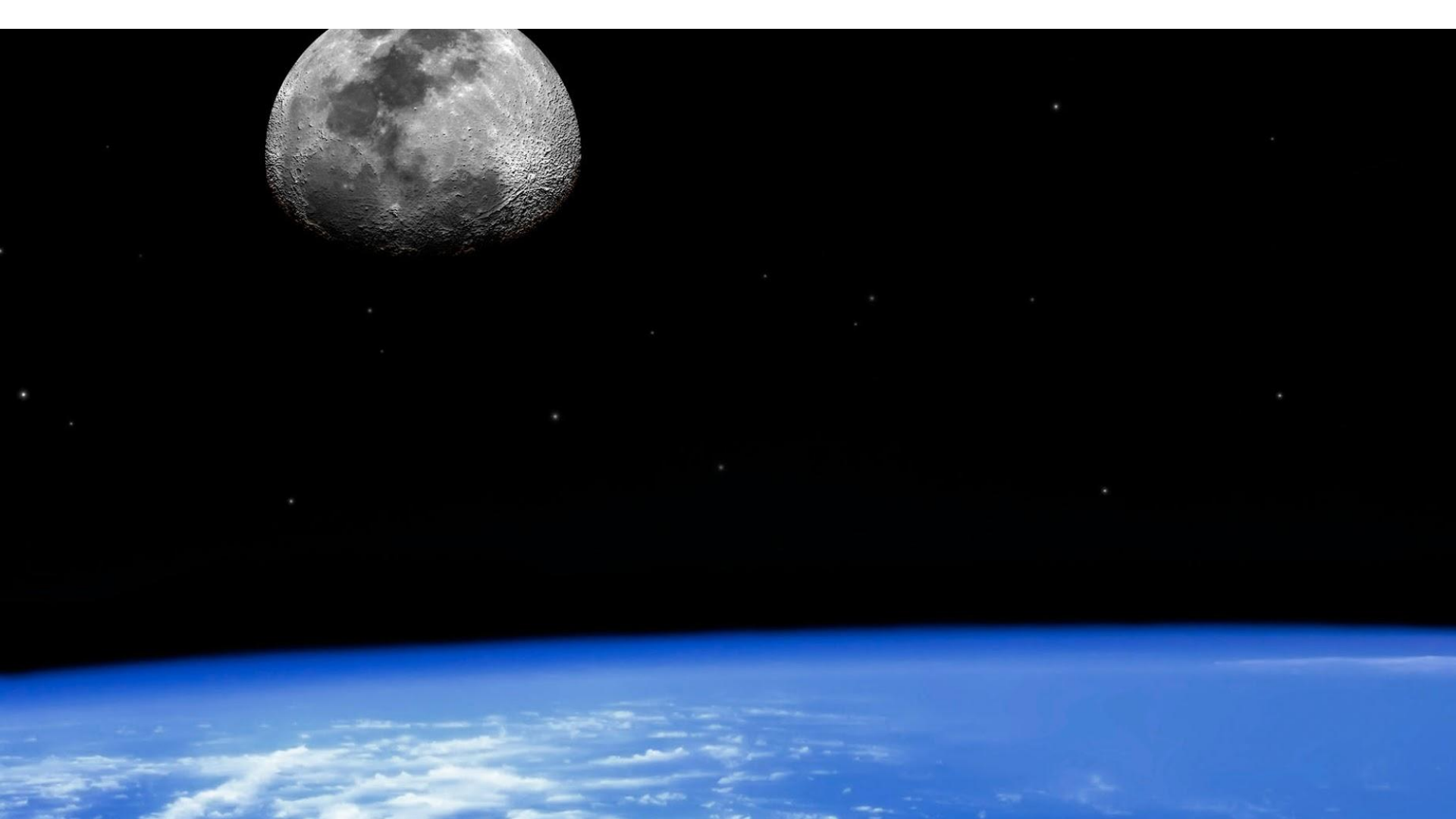
- I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.
 - An one: 1 Co 5:11
 - Caught up: 1 Thes 4:17

2 Cor 12:2

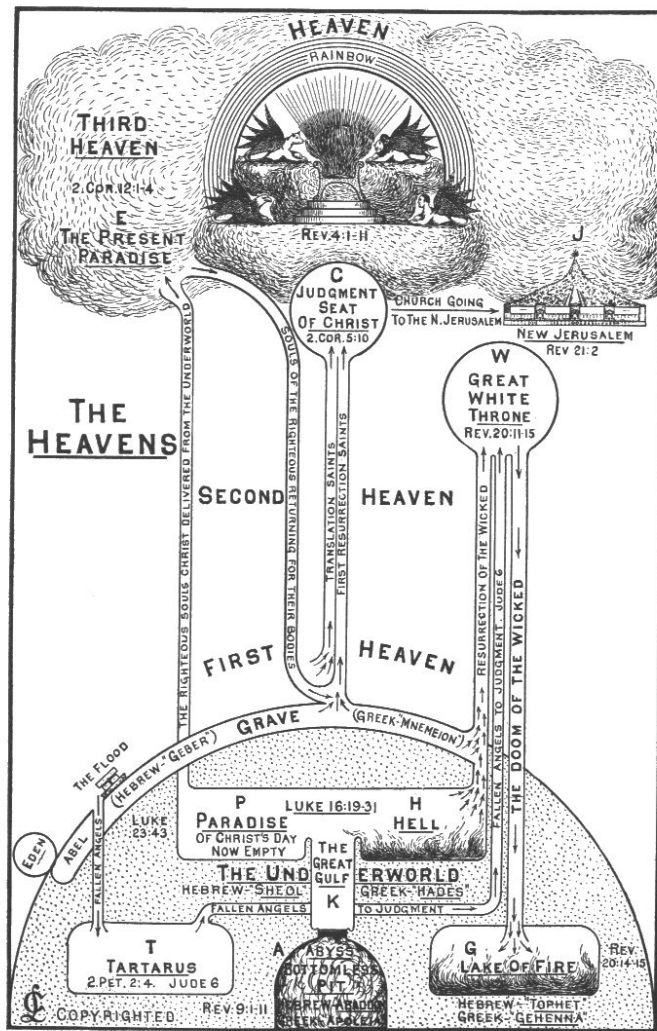
- ...to the third heaven.
 - Neh 9:6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.
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- 1st Heaven: The sky; our atmosphere
- 2nd Heaven: The stars and planets; space
- 3rd Heaven: Where God lives, the throne of God. (Rev 4:1-11)

2 Cor 12:3-4

And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) (4) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

- Unspeakable: inexpressible

2 Cor 12:5

Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory,
but in mine infirmities.

basket was I let down by the wall,
and escaped his hands.

CHAPTER 12

IT is not expedient for me
doubtless to glory. I will come
to visions and revelations of the
Lord.

2 I knew a man in Christ above
fourteen years ago, (whether in
the body, I cannot tell; or whether
out of the body, I cannot tell: God
knoweth;) such an one caught up
to the third heaven.

3 And I knew such a man,
(whether in the body, or out of
the body, I cannot tell: God
knoweth;)

4 How that he was caught up in-
to paradise, and heard unspeak-
able words, which it is not lawful
for a man to utter.

infirmities, in re-
cessities, in per-
tresses for Christ
I am weak, then

11 I am becom-
ing; ye have co-
ught to have
of you: for in re-
the very chief
I be nothing.

12 Truly th-
were wrought
patience, in-
and mighty

13 For wha-
inferior to
it be that I
densome to
wrong.

14 Behol-
ready to
not be bu-

whether in the
e body, I ca
oweth;)
How that he v

2 Cor 12:6

For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

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Why did Paul forbear?



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Why did Paul forbear?

- Because he knew he was nothing. Everything he was he considered dung compared to Christ.
 - Php 3:7-8
- He wanted to avoid all appearance of self importance.

How do people see you?
What do they see?



How do people see you? What do they see?

- Challenge: Consider what actually people see.