

2B or Not 2B?

THAT IS

THE QUESTION

“To be, or not to be”

“...is the opening phrase of a soliloquy uttered by Prince Hamlet in the “nunnery scene” of William Shakespeare’s play Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 1. In the speech, Hamlet contemplates death and suicide, bemoaning the pain and unfairness of life but acknowledging that the alternative might be worse”.

**How Are
Your “Be’s”?**

**2 Corinthians 11:16-
12:19**

1st B = BOASTING

16-21 “I repeat: Let no one take me for a fool. But if you do, then receive me just as you would a fool, so that I may do a little boasting. In this self-confident boasting I am not talking as the Lord would, but as a fool. Since many are boasting in the way the world does, I too will boast. You gladly put up with fools since you are so wise! In fact you even put up with anyone who enslaves you or exploits you or takes advantage of you or pushes themselves forward or slaps you in the face. To my shame I admit that we were too weak for that!”

2nd B - Background

21-29 “What anyone else dares to boast about – I am speaking as a fool – I also dare to boast about. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham’s descendants? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times was I shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea.

I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from people of my own country, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brethren. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.”

3rd B – A “Builded” Blessing

**12:9-10 ““My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”**

4th B – A Blessing To Others

12:14-15,19 “...because what I want is not your possessions but you. After all, children should not have to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. So I will gladly spend for you everything I have and expend myself as well. ...We have been speaking in the sight of God as those in Christ; and everything we do, dear friends, is for your strengthening.”

Our “To Be’s”

Our BOASTING In The Lord

Our BACKGROUND In Life and The Lord

Our BUILT-IN Blessing

Our BLESSING to Others

**“B” All You Can “B”
In The Lord’s Army!
God wants you
To “B”
A “Perfect” “B”!**