



## ASCENT OF PAUL

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### 2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 12 – NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

- 1 I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord.
- 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows.
- 3 And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—
- 4 was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell.
- 5 I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.
- 6 Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say,
- 7 or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.
- 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.
- 9 But he said to me, “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.
- 10 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.