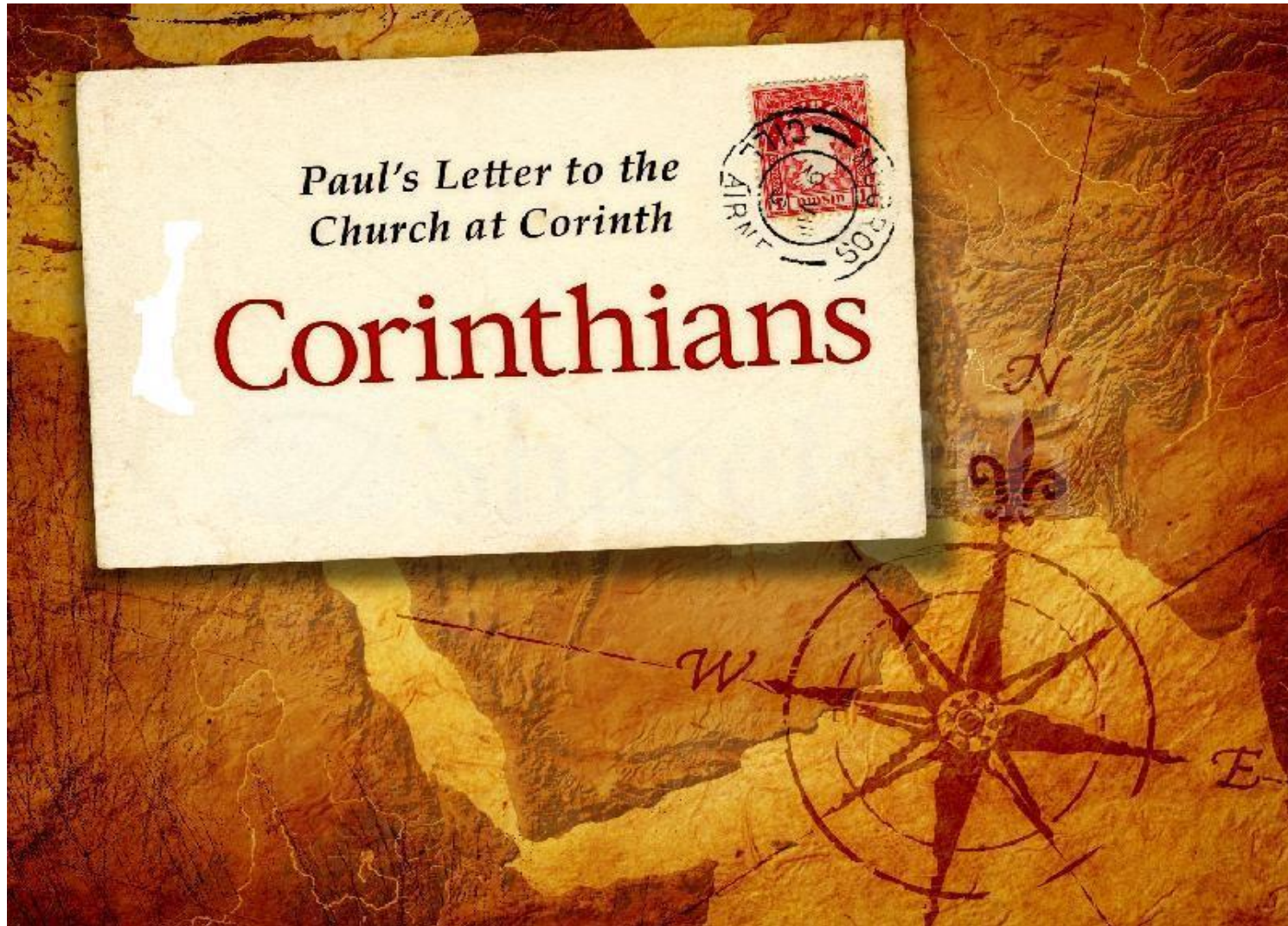




2 Cor 11:1- 6 Paul's Godly Jealousy for the Corinthians



Outline



Apostolic claims made by Paul 11:1 - 33

- Paul's Godly jealousy for the Corinthians 11:1-6
- Freedom to minister without charge 11:7-11
- Men disguising themselves as apostles of Christ 11:12-15
- Paul's service and sufferings part 1 11:16-33
- Paul's service and sufferings part 2 11:16-33

Today's verses



- 1 I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me.
- 2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.
- 3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ.
- 4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.
- 5 For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.
- 6 But even if I am unskilled in speech, yet I am not so in knowledge; in fact, in every way we have made *this* evident to you in all things.



¹ I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me.

I wish that – a particle of wishing or interjection.
It means Oh that! or Would that!

you would bear with - *anechō* - to hold up against a thing and so to bear with

- Heb 13:22a But I urge you, brethren, bear with this word of exhortation.

in a little foolishness or in a little [so-called] foolishness

Amplified

- He called this "foolishness" because he should not have had to speak of these things.*

but indeed you are bearing with me

- He and his ministry were well-known to his readers.*

* Constable

² For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.



In v:2 to 6 we have Paul's appeal to the Corinthians concerning these so called super apostles!

For I am jealous – present tense

jealous - *zēloō* - to be jealous, to seek or desire eagerly
Scripture talks about both man's and God's jealousy.

for you [Corinthians] with a godly jealousy

- Paul tell us that his jealousy is a godly jealousy.
- Human jealousy is a vice, but to share divine jealousy is a virtue.
Harris via Constable
- John 2:17 His disciples remembered [when Jesus drove out the money changers] that it was written, "ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME."

² For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.



Paul will now give us a picture of this godly jealousy.

1st - for I betrothed you to one husband,

Aorist,
Indicative,
Middle

betrothed - *harmozō* - to fit, join; is used in the middle voice, of marrying or giving in marriage

one husband = Christ

- Paul pictured himself as the father of a virgin bride [the Corinthian church]. Constable

1 Cor 4:15b --- yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.



2nd - [I betrothed] to present you a pure virgin to Christ

Interlinear

present – *paristánō* - to cause to stand near or before

- Eph 5:27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.
- His [Paul's] desire was to keep his daughter, the Corinthian church, pure until she would consummate her marriage to Christ.*
- This [consummation] will take place at the Rapture.*

* Constable

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of *devotion* to Christ.



But I am afraid that – This is Paul's fear!

as - even as

the serpent – the devil or tempter of Gen 3

Aorist,
Indicative,
Active

verb - deceived – *exapataō* - to beguile thoroughly, to deceive wholly or totally

- Rom 16:18b and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.
- Genuine Christians can be and are being deceived by false teachers today.

Constable

Direct obj. = Eve

How did he, the serpent, deceive Eve?

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of *devotion* to Christ.



by his craftiness or in his craftiness

craftiness - *panourgia* - the word signified the employment of any or all means necessary to realize an end - Zodiates

^{3:1} Now the serpent was **more crafty** than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;

³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴ The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die!

⁵ "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of *devotion* to Christ.



by [in] his craftiness or cunningness

This craftiness is shown in Genesis 3 as follows:

- Satan's first step was to plant a seed of doubt in Eve's mind concerning God's ways (v:1-3).*

God said: From **any tree** of the garden you may eat freely - but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat.

Satan said: Indeed [can it really be], has God said, 'You shall not eat from **any tree** of the garden'?

- He suggested that God did not really want what was best for Adam and Eve, but rather was withholding something from them that was essentially good.*

* Constable

3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.



by [in] his craftiness or cunningness

The second step in Satan's temptation was to *deny* God's *word*. (v:4-5)

God said: but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it **you will surely die**.

Satan said: 1: The serpent said to the woman, "**You surely will not die!** 2: For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

- In denying it he imputed motives to God that were not consistent with God's character. Constable

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.



Where will Satan do his work of deception using craftiness?
the thoughts of you should be led astray

Interlinear

thoughts - *nóēma* – the center of man's perception

- 2 Cor 10:5 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 C

Aorist,
Subjunctive,
Passive

should be led astray - *phtheírō* - to corrupt, with the meaning of to subvert or corrupt opinions

- They [Paul's critics] were leading the Corinthians astray.*
- The very future of the Corinthians as an apostolic church is in jeopardy.

Barnett via *Constable

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.



from the simplicity and the purity in Christ Interlinear

simplicity - *haplótēs* - single, not having an ulterior or double motive

- sincerity, simpleness, the opposite of duplicity - Zodhiates

purity – purity, sincerity

in Christ

Phil 3:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.

The test of true teaching:



- What does Paul say the test of true teaching is?
- The true teaching [in the church age] is whether that teaching is in agreement with what Paul and the apostles taught.

The following are some key points in Paul's teaching:

- There is a distinction between Israel and the Church.
- We are not under law but under grace.
- Our citizenship is in heaven.
- All believers are in a living union with Christ.
- We are blessed with all spiritual blessings.
- There is no distinction between Jew and Gentile.
- We are looking for the Rapture of Jesus Christ.

Next, we are given 3 examples where we are to test the teaching by what Paul and the apostles taught.

4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.



if – assumed to be true

1st - one comes and preaches another [person as] Jesus whom we have not preached (aorist tense)

- Paul & the apostles preached true events about Jesus.
- This preaching of the false teachers was contrary to Paul's teaching about Jesus.
- If they deny the virgin birth they are preaching another Jesus.
- If they deny He performed miracles they are preaching another Jesus.
- If they deny that He was raised from the dead bodily they are preaching another Jesus.

J Vernon McGee



4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.

2nd – or you receive a different [in nature] spirit which you have not received

- John warned us by telling us to test the spirits.
- 1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- 1 John 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.



3rd – or [you received] a different gospel which you have not accepted

- All true believers have accepted the gospel of God's grace which Paul preached.
- Gal 1:6-7 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; --- only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

you bear *this* beautifully

- You are most beautifully tolerant of him [the one saying these things].

5 For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent [super] apostles.



Now Paul will talk about his calling as an apostle:

5a Yet I consider myself as in no way inferior Amplified
inferior - *hystereō* - to be behind, inferior, to lack – perfect ten.

5b to these [precious] extra-super [false] apostles Amplified

- The "eminent [super] apostles" were probably the false apostles who claimed to be eminent rather than the other genuine apostles.*
- The context supports this interpretation as does the rare term translated for “eminent or super.” * Constable
- 2 Cor 12:11 I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually I should have been commended by you, for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I am a nobody.

⁶ But even if I am unskilled in speech, yet I am not so in knowledge; in fact, in every way we have made *this* evident to you in all things.



But even if I am unskilled in speech [as some of you say]

- 2 Cor 10:10 For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible.
- **unskilled** - *idiótēs* - uninstructed, unskilled, plain in speech

yet I am not so in knowledge

- Content is more important than delivery (speech).
- What you say is more important than the way you say it. – I've given you the truth! McCalley

but in everything we made it plain among all with a view to your benefit.

Final Thoughts*



- We still face the problem today of the preaching of another Jesus, another spirit, another gospel.
- Some time ago there was a musical production called “Jesus Christ Superstar,” who never lived.
- This is not the Jesus of the Bible but another Jesus.
- Paul makes it very clear that he would rather be preaching the gospel than defending himself.
- He takes time because he loves the Corinthians.

* adapted from J Vernon McGee

