

Jesus and only Jesus

II Corinthians 11:1 Would to God ye could **bear with me** a little in *my* folly: and indeed **bear with me.** 2 For **I am jealous** over you with **godly jealousy**: for **I have espoused you** to one husband, that **I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.** 3 But **I fear**, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so **your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.** 4 For if **he that cometh** preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or *if* ye receive **another spirit**, which ye have not received, or **another gospel**, which ye have not accepted, ye might well **bear with him.** 5 For I suppose I was **not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.** 6 But though *I be* rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but **we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.** 7 **Have I committed an offence** in **abasing myself** that ye might be exalted, because **I have preached to**

YOU the gospel of God freely? **8 I robbed other churches, taking wages of them,** to do you service. **9**

And when I was present with you, and wanted, **I was chargeable to no man:** for that which was lacking to me the **brethren which came from Macedonia supplied:** and in all *things* I have **kept myself from being burdensome unto you,** and so will I keep *myself*. **10**

As the truth of Christ is in me, **no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia.** **11** Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth. **12** But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we. **13** For such *are* **false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.** **14** And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed** into an angel of light. **15** Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be **transformed as the ministers of righteousness;** whose end shall be according to their works.

16 I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that **I may boast myself a little.** 17 That which I speak, I speak *it* not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting. 18 Seeing that many **glory after the flesh, I will glory also.** 19 For **ye suffer fools gladly,** seeing ye *yourselves* are wise. 20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into **bondage,** if a man **devour you,** if a man **take of you,** if a man exalt himself, if a man **smite you** on the face. 21 I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) **I am bold also.** 22 Are they Hebrews? **so am I.** Are they Israelites? **so am I.** Are they the seed of Abraham? **so am I.** 23 Are they ministers of Christ? (**I speak as a fool**) **I am more;** in labours more abundant, in **stripes above measure,** in **prisons more frequent,** in **deaths oft.** 24 Of the Jews **five times received I forty stripes save one.** 25 Thrice was I **beaten with rods,** once was I **stoned,** thrice I suffered **shipwreck,** a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 *In* journeyings often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils by *mine own* countrymen,

in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;
27 *In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.* 28 *Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, **the care of all the churches.*** 29 *Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?*
30 *If I must needs glory, **I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.*** 31 *The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.* 32 *In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, **desirous to apprehend me:*** 33 *And through a **window in a basket** was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.*

- You do not have many fathers, Paul really loves them. Others are taking advantage of them *I Corinthians 4:15* *For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.*

- As their spiritual father Paul was responsible to present them as a pure virgin on the wedding day just like an earthly father did
- The temptation that destroyed Eve wasn't to do or be something evil but to be more spiritual. To be more like God. To know more
- Paul was very transparent about being the chief of sinners and the least of the apostle but that didn't mean that he was like or less than these fake spiritual teachers
- Maybe they respected Paul less because he charged less. He didn't take advantage of them financially
- Real men of God serve if supported and just as much if not supported

1. Serving God is an **all or nothing** situation! He is a jealous God. He wants all of you! 2 For **I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**

- a. We take our relationship with Jesus flippantly but He doesn't
- i. Yet the Bible says you cannot be his disciple [Luke 14:25](#) And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, [26](#) If any *man* come to me, and **hate** not his **father**, and **mother**, and **wife**, and **children**, and **brethren**, and **sisters**, yea, and his **own life** also, **he cannot be my disciple.** [27](#) And whosoever **doth not bear his cross**, and **come after me, cannot be my disciple.** [33](#) So likewise, whosoever he be of you that **forsaketh not all that he hath**, he **cannot be my disciple.**
- ii. Any one that would not love Jesus first and supremely is not worthy of Him [Matthew 10:37](#) He that **loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me:** and he that **loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.** [38](#) And he that **taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.**

b. Perfect heart is a common term in the Bible

II Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them whose heart is perfect toward him.*

Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

- i. It was used about someone who had an undivided heart
- ii. It was not someone who didn't sin but someone who had chosen to love God with all his or her heart
- iii. Do you have a perfect, undivided heart towards God

c. Pure virgin 2 For **I am jealous** over you with **godly jealousy**: for **I have espoused you** to one husband, that **I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**

- i. Paul wanted to present them to God after having only loved Jesus
- ii. Paul didn't want falsehoods to destroy the relationship they had with Jesus
- iii. Paul didn't want sin to creep in. He loved them like a dad. Galatians 4:19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

I Thessalonians 2:7 But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:

2. **True spiritual leaders are concerned** that God's people know the truth and not be deceived 3 But **I fear**, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so **your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.**

a. There are not other ways to get to heaven

b. There is no other Jesus 4 For if **he that cometh** preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or *if* ye receive **another spirit**, which ye have not received, or **another gospel**, which ye have not accepted, ye might well **bear with him.**

c. Paul had lived transparently among them. They knew him. They knew if he lived what he preached unlike those visiting teachers that were fake 6 But though *I be* rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but **we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.**

d. There are people trying to destroy the truth by mixing it with error **13** For such *are* **false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.** **14** And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed** into an angel of light. **15** Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be **transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works.

3. **Spiritual leadership carries a great price** **5** For I suppose I was **not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.** **6** But though *I be* rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but **we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.**

- a. Paul had loved them when they didn't love him back. They didn't respect their spiritual father
- b. Paul had suffered physically, financially, emotionally, and even spiritually for them
- c. Paul had never taken advantage of them like the false teachers **19** For **ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye**

yourselves are wise. 20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into **bondage**, if a man **devour you**, if a man **take of you**, if a man exalt himself, if a man **smite you** on the face.

- i. They had put them back in bondage
 - ii. They were taking their money, their time, destroying their lives, devouring them
 - iii. They were exalting themselves over the Corinthians
 - iv. They were smiting them on the face or saying listen to me, I have spiritual authority and right to teach you
- d. Paul had suffered great tribulation and problems to get the gospel to them and others
4. How do you respond to the spiritual care that has been taken for your soul?
- a. Do recognize all that God is doing and has done in your life to get the gospel to you?
 - b. Do you acknowledge that many have prayed and worked to bring you to faith and maturity in Christ?
 - c. Do you run off after every teacher and doctrine that comes along instead of being faithful to continue in your place learning and growing?

- d. Do you check out everything by the Word of God as the final and only authority for spiritual truth?
- e. Do you hunger to be presented holy and pure to God as His servant and bride?