

“Godly Jealousy”
2 Corinthians 11:1-15
2/6/22
Message 16

Introduction

- Title of the Message is: “Godly Jealousy”

- **Review**

- **Context for Chapter 10-13**

- **Paul will now DEFEND his Apostleship for the next 3 chapters**
 - He will Challenge
 - The Rebels in the church
 - The False teachers (The Judaizers)
 - He will encourage them to repent
 - Paul will NOT Mince words
 - As you read 2 Corinthians 10–13 there is NO Political Correctness taking place
 - He referred directly to his Accusers and answering their false charges.
 - (2 Cor. 10:7, 10–12; 11:4, 20–23)
 - He is NOT afraid to call it EVIL
 - The Judaizers in the church are ministers of Satan who want to destroy the work of God
 - (2 Cor. 11:12–15)

- As a Matter of Fact Some Believe because of the ABRUPT Change in TONE
 - That Chapter 10 - 13 are a part of another Book
 - That they were a part of the “severe letter” (2:4)
 - But I Don’t believe that to be the case
 - The best interpretation views 2 Corinthians as a unified letter
 - With chapters 1–9 addressed to the repentant majority
 - Chapters 10–13 to the minority still influenced by the false teachers.
- **What we can Learn From these Chapters**
 - There will be MANY Lessons
 - **1st God’s Work will ALWAYS have Challenges –**
 - There will always be those who attempt to tear it down
 - This is Nothing new and will continue until Jesus Comes
 - We MUST expect it
 - *Steadman; “It’s difficult to argue with evil. Falsehood is a fortress that aggressively defends itself. If you try to attack evil and error, expect to be wounded. Expect to have your character and reputation smeared. Expect to be interrupted, shouted down, and ridiculed. You will fight fairly because you are a Christian—but your enemy will cheat, lie, threaten, and attack you in ways you can’t even imagine.”*
 - **2nd Paul Leadership**

- We Will see How to handle these Situations
- Meekness yet Boldness
- The AIM is always restoration – NOT REVENGE
- **3rd In Many ways the Same Problem exist today**
 - The Struggle in The Church
 - Not that Pastors today can stand with the same authority as Paul did
 - But the Conflict between pastors and congregation is still a very real problem
 - Today Pastors can Abuse their Authority
 - Congregation can Abuse Pastors
 - For the Record
 - I know a LOT of Pastors
 - A Lot of GOOD men - Yet NOT one Perfect
 - Illustration – Like Parent a lot of Good one and only a few bad ones – most are trying to do their best
 - Almost Ever Pastor that I know has had their Ministries challenged at some point and some many times
 - Why They teach the Word –
 - It will go against the grain of our flesh – how will we handle it
 - Just like many of us at one time were upset with our parents...

- How To Handle
 - If Pastor are Abusing their Authority
 - God to them (Matthew 18)
 - Go to the Board
 - Go to Accountability pastors
 - If the Congregation is Abusing its pastor
 - Lee Grandy Writes Article in the table
 - *Sometimes Spiritual Warfare Isn't Demons—It's Other Christians*
 - *Those of us in the Spirit-filled community talk a lot about spiritual warfare, and we love to identify the demons behind every problem. But I've learned that we give demons too much credit. In many cases, "spiritual warfare" is actually caused by Christians who don't know how to love.*
 - *It's true: Christians are guilty at times of gossip, slander, character assassination and other devilish activities that destroy people and churches. The devil and his demons may ultimately be behind it all, but carnal people are the devil's willing pawns. That's why Paul told the Galatians: "If you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another" (Gal. 5:15, NASB)*
 - *As we step into this new year, I challenge you to make it your goal to become a loving encourager. Here's how you can avoid being a tool of spiritual destruction:*

• **Now this Morning 7 Powerful Truth's that Paul Draws Out**

- Seen in his PRESENTATION to them v. 1
- Seen in his PURPOSE for them v. 2
- Seen in the POSSIBILITY of deception vs. 3-4
- Seen in his POSITION in their midst vs. 5-6
- Seen in his PRACTICES among them vs. 7-9
- Seen in the PROOF of His love for them vs. 10-11
- Seen in his PROTECTION for them vs. 12-15

Seen in his PRESENTATION to them v. 1

• **First: Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly v. 1a**

2 Corinthians 11:1 (NKJV)

1 Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me.

- **1st Context**
 - Again - Defense Of his Apostleship
 - The Corinthians had accepted the FALSE teachers Claim that Paul was not an Apostle
- **2nd Paul calls it FOLLY**
 - The False TEACHERS Boasted of their accomplishments
 - In a way to discredit Paul
 - SO WHY does Paul Call it Folly?
 - NOT because his Apostleship is stupid or nonsense.
 - Knowing his time and effort could be spent on far better things.
 - WHY I AM I WASTING TIME on this!!!

- Knowing his time and effort could be spent on far better things.

○ **3rd Lesson - Again we See Humility**

- False Teachers always bragging about how great they are how great their ministry is...
- Paul has said 2 Cor. 11:30

2 Corinthians 11:30 (NKJV)

30 *If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity.*

- The TRUE Servant of God does not boast Himself – BUT in GOD
- THEY know who they and they never forget it
- True Servant are NOTHING God is EVERYTHING

• **Second: And indeed you do bear with me v.11b**

2 Corinthians 11:1 (NKJV)

1 *Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me.*

- But Alright – If you Need Proof here it is
 - Paul's Resume is OFF the Charts

Seen in his PURPOSE for them v. 2

• **First: For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy v. 2a**

2 Corinthians 11:2 (NKJV)

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

- **1st Human Jealousy**
 - Human jealousy is a VICE

- Human jealousy leads to all kinds of SIN
- I am Jealous because you have a new car – so I take it
- I am Jealous of you new girlfriend so I attempt to undermine your relationship...
- **2nd Godly Jealousy**
 - God has a Jealousy for us!!!

Exodus 20:5 (NKJV)

5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

- It is a Perfect jealousy – Righteous jealousy
- *Redpath; “God’s jealousy, therefore, is a concern for the holiness, integrity, purity of ethics, and Christian standards for His people. Because of this, He will refuse to brook a rival in our affections for Him, not because of a selfish greed which wishes us all for His own possession, but simply because He knows that His great purpose for us of purity and holiness of life depends on our personal surrender and submission to His purpose.”*
- It is important that the Corinthian Christians understand and trust Paul’s apostolic credentials because Paul is jealous with a godly jealousy for their hearts.
- **3rd Paul’s godly jealousy**
 - It is a good thing
 - He will be heartbroken if they are seduced by a false understanding of what being an apostle is all about.
 - He will be heartbroken if they are led away from the faith by the false teachers

- 4th Lesson

- From my heart – I have a godly jealousy for all you

- **Second: For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ:**

2 Corinthians 11:2 (NKJV)

2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

- 1st Context

- In the Jewish culture of that day,
 - The Father would job was to make sure his daughter was pure to be married
- Paul As their spiritual father (12:14; 1 Cor. 4:15; cf. 9:1, 2)
 - Paul portrayed the Corinthians like a daughter, whom he betrothed to Jesus Christ (at their conversion).
 - NOTE:
 - The OT pictures Israel as the wife of the Lord (cf. Is. 54:5; Jer. 3:14; Hos. 2:19, 20)
 - While the NT pictures the church as the bride of Christ (Eph. 5:22–32; Rev. 19:7).
- Chaste virgin.
 - Having betrothed or pledged the Corinthians to Christ
 - Paul wanted them to be pure until the marriage day finally arrived

- It was that passionate concern which provoked Paul's jealousy and prompted him to set forth his apostolic credentials.
- Remember also that the time of betrothal wasn't taken lightly in Paul's culture.
- If someone was unfaithful during the betrothal period, it was considered adultery, and a betrothal could only be broken by divorce.

Seen in the POSSIBILITY of Deception vs. 3-4

- **1st Satan deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted**

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV)

3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

▪ Back to Genesis

- As the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness
- Paul understood that Satan's deception of Eve in the Garden of Eden is a good example of Satan's deceptive tactics.
- Satan's Lie
 - Did God Indeed say...
 - Subtle Doubts
 - You will not surely die
 - You will be like Him
 - God is Holding out on you

- **2nd From the simplicity that is in Christ v. 3b**

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV)

3 *But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*

- What can I say about this!!
 - “Simply Jesus”
 - The Simple Gospel
 - John 3:16 / Roman 10:9-10
 - The Simple Church
 - Acts 2
 - So sad to me that in order to appear to be successful in today’s world you have to have the SHOW...
- Remember TRUE success
 - Faithfulness and Obedience

• Second: For if he who comes preaches another Jesus:

- 1st If He who comes v. 4a

2 Corinthians 11:4 (NKJV)

4 *For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!*

- A True apostle is
 - “One who is sent.”
- False Apostle
 - One Who Comes

- These troublemakers were the exact opposite of apostles.

○ **2nd Preach Another Jesus v. 4b**

2 Corinthians 11:4 (NKJV)

4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

- Another...
 - Gospel
 - Jesus
 - Watch for the subtle lies
- It's ALL about Doctrine for Paul
 - Remember Phil 1
 - People did not like him but they were still preaching the true gospel so Paul let it go
- Lesson –
 - You ALL know my heart on this
 - It's ALL about Doctrine

○ **3rd You may well put up with it v. 4c**

2 Corinthians 11:4 (NKJV)

4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

- The problem

- Yes False Teachers
- BUT the fact that the Corinthian Christians put up with them.

▪ Guzik; “The church has the same problem today. It is not surprising that there are false teachers in the church today; the problem is that the church puts up with them and embraces them. Christians of this generation, like Christians of many generations, will have to answer to Jesus for their lack of discernment when it comes to the false teachers and leaders accepted and embraced by the church.”

Seen in his POSITION in Their Midst vs. 5-6

• First: I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles v. 5

2 Corinthians 11:5 (NKJV)

5 For I consider that I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles.

- I am not at all inferior:
 - Whoever these most eminent apostles are...
 - Paul was making a sarcastic reference to the false apostles, based on their exalted view of themselves
 - Paul will not claim to be less than they

• Second: Even though I am untrained in speech v. 6a

2 Corinthians 11:6 (NKJV)

6 Even though I am untrained in speech, yet I am not in knowledge. But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things.

- 1st Untrained on Speech
 - According to the standards of Greek rhetoric, Paul untrained in speech.

- The Greeks look for polished, sophisticated, entertaining way was popular.
- So it was all About the show not the content
- So Paul was not the best speaker –
- BUT his Knowledge – Paul was off the charts
- **2nd Lesson**
 - Please hear the CRY of my heart
 - NEVER get caught up in the excitement a speaker / teach may bring
 - Get Caught up the content of the message

• **Third: But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things v. 6b**

2 Corinthians 11:6 (NKJV)

6 *Even though I am untrained in speech, yet I am not in knowledge. But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things.*

- Paul couldn't – or wouldn't – give the Corinthian Christians the polished and entertaining preaching they wanted, but he did give them himself.
 - He thoroughly manifested himself among the Corinthian Christians in all things.
 - He wasn't a polished speaker (according to the standards of his day), but he was an honest and transparent speaker

Seen in his PRACTICES Among Them vs. 7-9

• **First: Did I commit sin in humbling myself... v. 7**

2 Corinthians 11:7 (NKJV)

7 Did I commit sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I preached the gospel of God to you free of charge?

○ **1st Because I preached the gospel of God to you free of charge?**

- In the culture of that day, if a public speaker didn't take money for his speaking he was often disregarded as a poor speaker, with worthless teaching.
- Many people thought of someone who charged no speaking fee as strictly an amateur.
- But Paul didn't care about the opinion of others when it came to his heart for preaching the gospel without being accused of doing it for money.

○ **2nd Did I commit sin?**

- This shows Paul at his most ironic.
- The Corinthian Christians who despised Paul were so worldly in their thinking they actually thought Paul might be in sin because he preached the gospel of God to you free of charge!

• **Second: I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to minister to you v. 8**

2 Corinthians 11:8 (NKJV)

8 I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to minister to you.

○ **1st The word Paul used for robbed is strong.**

- Paul had a right to be paid (1 Cor. 9:4-11)
- Would NOT take their money
- But received help from other church

- His point is that the churches who supported him while he ministered in Corinth received no direct benefit from the support they gave him.
- Why?
 - We don't know for sure
 - But maybe one reason – The Corinthians had bad motives
 - They gave grudgingly...
 - Sought to control Paul

• **Third: I was a Burden To Know one v. 9**

2 Corinthians 11:9 (NKJV)

9 *And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself.*

- **1st Paul did not want to be a burden**
 - It's all about serving Jesus
- **2nd Lesson – When I started in ministry and when I came here**
 - Started in ministry NO pay for many years
 - All in service to the Lord –
 - When we did get on staff past majority went right back in the offering
 - It is all about PROPER motives
 - Serving for a check or serving Jesus
 - Came here – not a lot of pay

- Reflects a heart to serve
- Not a hireling

Seen in the PROOF of His love for them vs. 10-11

• First: No one shall stop me from this boasting v. 10

2 Corinthians 11:10 (NKJV)

10 *As the truth of Christ is in me, no one shall stop me from this boasting in the regions of Achaia.*

- 1st As a true Apostle
 - Paul could “boast” that he took NO money and that he was more interested in the integrity of the message than in his own needs.

• Second: Why? Because I do not love you? God knows! V. 11

2 Corinthians 11:11 (NKJV)

11 *Why? Because I do not love you? God knows!*

- The Corinthians may have been embarrassed by Paul not taking money
 - But Paul was Motivated by LOVE
 - It was only because he loved them and would find a way to bring them back from their worldly thinking.

Seen in his PROTECTION for them vs. 12-15

• First: Cut Off v. 12

2 Corinthians 11:12 (NKJV)

12 *But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast.*

○ **1st His Refusal to accept Financial Support**

- Paul refused to accept financial support from the Corinthians was a source of embarrassment to the false apostles
- Who eagerly sought money for their services
- Paul intended to keep his ministry free of charge and thereby undermine the false apostles' claims that they operated on the same basis as he did.
- Paul wanted to expose these most eminent apostles as frauds.
- If it took biting sarcasm or embarrassing the Corinthian Christians to expose them, Paul would use those tools.

○ **2nd Purpose**

- To CUT OFF – Put a STOP to what they did

• **Second: False Apostles, Deceitful Workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ v. 13**

2 Corinthians 11:13 (NKJV)

13 *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.*

○ **1st Call them what they ARE**

- Paul's real opinion of these men, pent up so far in the Letter, at last bursts forth.
 - He can contain himself no longer! He must call them what they are
 - False Apostles –
 - Claiming to be True – BUT False – Not from God
 - Deceitful Workers –

- They Confuse People
- All People can be confused – if they aren't abiding in the Word
- Imitators of Light –
 - They Look and Sound Good!
 - BUT their message is WRONG
- This MAY seem Harsh...
 - But reflects the godly jealousy Paul had for them
- **2nd This is Still a Problem today**
 - SO Be Bereans
 - Check to make sure these things are true
 - Don't follow FEELINGS / EMOTIONS
 - Don't Seek Entertainment
 - Don't Follow Hype
 - The Business Model – everything looks successful

• **Third: For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light v. 14**

2 Corinthians 11:14 (NKJV)

14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

- **1st Their father – Satan**
 - Even as Satan may appear as an angel of light
 - So false apostles may have a “good” appearance.

- Paul is showing the Corinthian Christians how foolish it is to rely on image and outward appearances.

- **2nd Lesson**

- It is so easy for all people, including Christians, to be taken in by image and outward appearances.
- If We saw Evil in it's true state we would run
- But when Evil masquerades as good – well that is when we must watch out
- *Spurgeon; “Discernment is not knowing the difference between right and wrong. It is knowing the difference between right and almost right.”*

- **Fourth: According to their works v. 14**

2 Corinthians 11:15 (NKJV)

15 *Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.*

- This is the terrible condemnation reserved for these false apostles – to be judged according to their works.

Closing

- False religion has been around as long as there has been true religion.

- **Cults usually lure people in by a three-fold hook!**

- Deprogramming –
 - “All of your past was wrong”. What your parents, teachers, or church said, “it is all wrong!”
- Programming –
 - The human will doesn't function apart from the mind, so they seek to altar your mind so they can control your will.

- Habitual patterns of behavior & response will be broken & a new program put in its place.
- Reprogramming –
 - Intensive teaching or indoctrination.
 - A whole new structure is raised.

• ***Here are 6 things to evaluate whether a ministry is truly a ministry!***

- 1st Authoritarianism –
 - They lack a servant's heart & lack grace.
- 2nd Exclusiveness –
 - There is suspicion & paranoia. Theirs is the only way.
- 3rd Greed –
 - There is a manipulation to get money.
- 4th Sensuality –
 - There is moral impurity & sexual looseness.
- 5th Unaccountability –
 - There is much secrecy & irresponsibility.
- 6th Rationalization –
 - There is defensiveness when they are confronted. Also, they twist the scriptures to fit their lifestyle or their opinions.

Communion

- First: Remember (Looking Back at what Jesus did)

- Second: Repent / Reflect (Looking Within) 1 Cor. 11:27-28
- Third: Rejoice (Looking Forward) 1 Cor. 11:26
- Fourth: Reconcile (Looking Around) 1 Cor. 11:29, 33-34

1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (NKJV)

23 *For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread;*

24 *and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”*

25 *In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”*

26 *For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.*