

What Does It Mean?

by Gramps Curtis 2 pages #63190

The jealous evangelist began speaking to those self-righteous backslidden preachers about the trials and treachery he had survived. His words were meant to prick their hearts, and call attention to their phoney ministries.

Before we continue learning about this jealous evangelist, I'd add a couple suggestions here. So often, in our hectic daily agendas, we tend to snack on scripture, much like we snack from a sack at the nearest drivethru. We know that burger is not good for building strong bones, but we gotta hurry, hurry, hurry. To be strong faithful soldiers for the Lord Jesus Christ, we need to FEED on scripture, not just snack and go.

When we take our seat at the dinner table, we first thank God for our food, and ask Him to strengthen us to joyfully do His will. Well, we must approach 2Corinthians 11, and all of scripture in the same way; with prayer, and prepare to march into battle for Our Dear Savior. We must ask God to help us savor scripture, not only as a history book, reference manual, collection of daily Bible readings, but as a diary. We ask God to help put us in the mind of Moses, or Jonah, or the Apostle Paul.

While you may be reading from a hand-held reader, we'll follow here with that chapter 11 of 2Corinthians. Now as you move down through all the terrible things that Paul suffered, notice what he adds at

the end of the list – or rather, separate from the list. Read it closely and prayerfully, 'cuz he's talking about you and me, in vs. 28. What does it mean in telling us about Paul's heart? What does he consider most important to his daily agenda? Compare the giving of his life daily, to your agenda. 2Corinthians 11 (KJV)

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.

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