

**Context**

1] 2 Cor – jumbled non systematic like 1 Cor or Rms. Reason?

a) mix up – last chapter should be first?

b) written on the hoof – very quickly, as travelled through Macedonia. Very emotional – just heard report from Titus, church that he feared was lost (2 Cor 2:12) was apparently repentant.

2] After speaking encouragingly r/e generosity chs 8 &9, his ministry vs false apostles (10&11)

**Summary**

Indulge my foolishness but I want you to be Christ's alone. I fear however that you will be tempted by the devil to disbelieve Christ's only Gospel that we shared with you (1-4).

You know that I am equal to all in the Lord (5,6)

Was it sinful for me to avoid being a burden in anyway upon you? (7-9)

You all know it was because I love you and I will continue to do so to expose the devilish false apostles (10-15)

You have been enslaved and exploited by proud charlatans (21)

**Main Point** Beware through false apostles, the devil's deception of an easier, worldly, less Christ centred Gospel.

**Key verse** But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ' (3)

???

Paul is so 'OTT'! (1,8,10,19, 21)

**Paul's feelings (1-4)**

1] His 'foolishness' (1)

2] His Jealousy (2)

a) Godly

\*God creates a holy jealousy within us\*

b) promised bride

*Cf Church as bride to Christ see Ephesians 5:25-27*

*Your maker is your husband (Is 54:50; 62:5)*

*Lord's return His marriage to the church (Rev 19:7)*

\*GGG Christ desires us for His bride\*

\*Be flexible how you communicate the Gospel

Jealously look to the well being of your children' in the Gospel\*

3] His fears (3,4)

a) the simplicity in Christ (3)

*cf Eve deceived (Genesis 3:1-6)*

*Danger of false teachers (Romans 16:17-18; 2 Peter 2:1-2)*

\*Christ expects a pure devotion in us\*

Be aware of the devil's devices to corrupt your thinking

Guard the Gospel truth carefully\*

b) THE Jesus, Spirit, Gospel (4)

*cf Other Gospel (Gal 1:8)*

*\*Jesus' Gospel (the Apostles) is the only one\**

**Paul's ministry (5-12)**

1] knowledge vs 'gifted' (5,6)

*gk idiotēs -meaning 'a layman in speech'*

*given at conversion (Acts 9:1-18)*

*Super apostles (12:11)*

*The chiefest of Apostles either the pillars (Gal 2:9) (older commentators) or interlopers (view of modern commentators)*

*trained speaker (Acts 4:13 cf 1Cor 2:3)*

*Knowledge – the mystery of Christ (Eph 3:4,5; 1 Cor 2:6-11)*

*\*Be confident in God of your ability and worth\**

2] Free vs costly (7-10)

*Nb Supported by others (Acts 18:5; Philippians 4:15-19)*

*tent-making (Acts 18:3)*

*free of charge (1 Corinthians 9:1-18 Acts 20:32-35)*

*8,9 Rightful but not taken (1 Cor 9:12)*

*worked hard himself (Acts 20:34)*

*help from Macedonia via Timothy and Silvanus (Acts 18:5)*

*\*The Truth of Christ is in His people\**

*\*Do not concede to worldly values in preaching the Gospel\**

*\*Allow people from other areas to support the preaching of the Gospel\**

3] The reason – love (11) lower myself

*\*God is our witness\**

*\*Let people know that you love them\**

4] Plan - persistence (12)

*Nb Gk phrasso – very strong. damming a river (cf Rom3:19)*

*\*Undercut by your grace those who oppose you\**

**The false apostles**

1] Deceitful workmen (13a)

*Nb Call evil good and good evil (Is 5:20)*

2] Masquerading as apostles of Jesus (13b)

*have the form of Godliness but deny its power (2Tim 3:1-5)*

*\*People masquerade within the church as 'children of light'\**

3] cf Satan (14,15a)

*Cf Satan - angel of light (Matthew 4:8-11)*

*- other means of harming the church (2Corinthians 2:11; 4:4)*

*dis-believing jews – 'of their father, the devil' (Jn 8:44)*

4] Their fate (15b)

*Nb According to what he has done see Matt 26:27; Rmns 2:6; cf 2 Tim 4:14.*

*Gal 5:10; 1 Pet 1:17*

*\*'hypocrites' will get their comeuppance from God on the day of judgement\**