



Staying Faithful to Jesus

2 Corinthians 11:1-15
June 12, 2022

The Big Idea: We can stay faithful to Jesus by clinging to the **Gospel** (filling our minds and hearts with Truth) and by recognizing and actively resisting **false** teaching.

2 Corinthians 11:1-15 (ESV)

11 I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness. Do bear with me! ²For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. ³But ***I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*** ⁴For if someone comes and proclaims ***another Jesus*** than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive ***a different spirit*** from the one you received, or if you accept ***a different gospel*** from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough. ⁵Indeed, I consider that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles. ⁶***Even if I am unskilled in speaking, I am not so in knowledge;*** indeed, in every way we have made this plain to you in all things. ⁷Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I preached God's gospel to you free of charge? ⁸I robbed other churches by accepting support from them in order to serve you. ⁹And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied my need. So I refrained and will refrain from burdening you in any way. ¹⁰As the truth of Christ is in me, this boasting of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia. ¹¹And why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

¹²And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do. ¹³For such men are ***false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising*** themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴***And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*** ¹⁵So it is no surprise if ***his servants***, also, ***disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.***

Eternal Truths We Must Know and Live in Order to Stay Faithful

1. From the beginning, Satan's first choice of a weapon in spiritual warfare has been **deception**. [Genesis 3:1-5]
2. Faithfulness to Jesus is largely a product of our thoughts (mind) -- **knowing** and being focused on spiritual **truth**.
3. To recognize false and misleading teaching it is imperative that we know what the Bible teaches about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Gospel. [v. 4]
 - o False teachers will deviate from teaching what Scripture declares about the **Son** of God.
 - o False teachers will not present orthodox teaching about our **Triune** God (One God who is eternally Father, Son, and Spirit).
 - o False Teachers will reject salvation by **grace** through faith, presenting a "gospel" that is Jesus **plus** something else.
4. It is wonderful to have the combination of Biblical knowledge delivered by skillful speakers, but **truth** will always be more important than **style**. [v. 6]
5. False teachers are masters of deceit and disguise – characteristics of Satan himself. Faithful servants are committed to the truth of **Scripture**, the true Gospel of Jesus, and the welfare of God's people – the Church. The Lord will judge, but we must learn to **discern**! [vv. 12-15]

Lord Jesus,
we confess you as our Savior and Lord. Help us to love you with
our minds and our whole hearts. Give us a love for
Your Word that drives us to know you
and follow you in all things. Give us grace to remain
faithful to You.
Amen
