

2 CORINTHIANS 11

NLET

PAUL DEFINES HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE CORINTHIAN
DISCIPLES

1 I wish that you bear with me a little with the ¹ foolishness². But, *indeed*, you are bearing with me.

2 For, I am jealous for you with a jealousy from God. For, I betrothed you – *that is*, a virgin, a holy *one* – with one man, to cause *you* stand alongside the Anointed One.

PAUL EXPRESSES HIS FEAR FOR THE CORINTHIAN
DISCIPLES

3 But now, I am fearing *that* not in any way, as the Serpent thoroughly deceived Eve in connection with the craftiness *that is* his might in any way³ seduce the thoughts *that are* yours away from the simplicity ⁴ – *namely*, the *simplicity* in regard to the Anointed One.

4 For, if, on the one hand, the one who is coming, heralds
 ➤ another 'Jesus' whom we did not herald, or
 ➤ a 'Spirit' – *that is*, a different one – whom you did not receive, or
 ➤ an 'Excellent Announcement' – *that is*, a different one – which you did not receive,
 you were bearing⁵ *these* happily.

PAUL REMINDS THE CORINTHIAN DISCIPLES
OF THE CHARACTER OF HIS SERVICE AMONG THEM

5 For, I reckon myself not at all to be inferior to the most distinguished apostles.

6 Now, even if *I am* an idiot with respect to an *ability to make* 'the Speech,' rather, *I am* NOT so with respect to 'the Knowledge.' Rather, in connection with everything *I am* one having been made manifest⁶ in connection with all kinds of things to you.

7 Or, did I commit a moral failure while humbling myself with the result that you, *for your parts*, might be

exalted, because I proclaimed the Excellent Announcement of the God to you AS A FREE GIFT?!

8 I robbed other ekklesias, taking a salary *from them* for the sake of the service *that was* yours. 9 And, while being present before you and having failed to obtain what I lacked, I did not burden anyone. For, the Brothers, having come from Macedonia, fully supplied the needs *that were* mine. And, in connection with all things I was not burdensome to you. I took care of MYSELF. And, I shall take care *of myself*.

10 A truth of an anointed One is in me – *namely*, that the boast – *that is*, this *one* – shall not be fenced in in regard to me in the regions of the *province* Achaia. 11 For what reason? Because I do not love you? The God knows *that I do*!

PAUL ASSURES THE CORINTHIAN DISCIPLES THAT HIS
SERVICE TO THEM SHALL REMAIN THE SAME IN CONTRAST
TO OTHERS

12 Now, what I am doing also I shall do,

- in order that I might cut off the pretext of the ones who are wishing a pretext,
- in order that in connection with which *thing* they keep on boasting they might be found just as also *we are*.

13 For, the ones such as these *are*:

- false apostles,
- deceitful workers,
- ones who are disguising themselves as apostles of an anointed One, 14 and
- not admirable⁷.

For, the Satan himself disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 So then, *it is not* a great *thing*, if the servants *that are* his also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness – of whom the end shall be according to the deeds *that are* theirs.

¹ 94% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the dative, definite article 'the' here. On the basis of 2% the NU has the indefinite pronoun 'anything'.

² 94% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the dative noun translated as 'foolishness' here, corresponding to the preceding dative, definite article. On the basis of 2% the NU has the genitive noun for 'foolishness'.

³ 62.8% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the adverb translated as 'in any way' here. On the basis of 2% the NU omits it.

⁴ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

transmission (f35), do not include the words 'and the purity' here.

⁵ 53% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'you were bearing' (an imperfect, middle verb) here. On the basis of 1% two manuscripts (p46 and B) the NU has 'you are bearing' (a present, middle verb).

⁶ 95.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'one having been made manifest' (an aorist, passive participle) here. On the basis of 3.9% the NU has 'one having made manifest' (an aorist, active participle).

⁷ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'admirable' here instead of 'wonder'.

PAUL BOASTS 'A LITTLE'

16 Again I say, let no one even begin to consider me to be unwise. Now, if *you shall not grant this* and ever *consider me* as unwise, accept me, in order that I might 'boast' a little.

17 What I speak I do NOT speak in relation to YaHWeH⁸ ⁹. Rather, *I speak* as though in connection with folly – *that is*, in connection with this, the undertaking of boasting.

18 Since many boast according to the¹⁰ flesh, also I, *for my part*, shall boast. 19 For, gladly you – *that is*, ones who are prudent – exalt the imprudent ones.

20 For, you bear *it*,

- if anyone enslaves you,
- if anyone devours *you*,
- if anyone carries *you* off as booty,
- if anyone raises himself *among you*,
- if anyone cudgels you in *the* face.

21 In relation to dishonor I speak thus: that we, *for our parts*, were weak¹¹. Now, in connection with which anyone might ever dare – with foolishness I speak! – I, *for my part*, also dare:

- 22 Are they Hebrews? Also I, *for my part*, *am*.
- Are they Israelites? Also I, *for my part*, *am*.
- Are they seed of Habraham¹²? Also I, *for my part*, *am*.
- 23 Are they servants of Anointed One? Being one who is deranged, I am speaking – I, *for my part*, *am*, above measure!
- In connection with toil and trouble – more so.
- In connection with being struck – exceedingly.
- In connection with imprisonments – moreso.
- In connection with threats of death – many times.
- 24 Five times I received forty minus one *lashes*.

⁸ 'YaHWeH' – The Greek has the word 'Lord' (Κύριον) without a definite article here. Paul and other New Testament writers often use this unarticulated word to indicate a reference to YaHWeH, the eternally existing God of the Old Testament. This is especially clear in New Testament quotations from the Old Testament where the name YaHWeH appears.

⁹ 94% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order 'say in relation to YaHWeH' here instead of 'in relation to YaHWeH say'.

¹⁰ 82% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article 'the' here.

¹¹ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'we were weak' (an aorist, active verb) here instead of 'we were lastingly weak' (a perfect, active participle).

➤ 25 Three times I was beaten with a rod.

➤ Once I was stoned.

➤ Three times I was ship-wrecked.

➤ I lastingly did a night and a day in the deep.

I was afflicted –

➤ 26 by journeys by road many times,

➤ by dangers from rivers,

➤ by dangers from robbers,

➤ by dangers from *my* countrymen,

➤ by dangers from ethnicities,

➤ by dangers in connection with a city,

➤ by dangers in connection with a desolate place,

➤ by dangers in connection with a sea,

➤ by dangers in connection with false brothers,

➤ 27 in connection with¹³ toil and trouble and hardship,

➤ in connection with sleeplessness – *that is*, many times,

➤ in connection with hunger and thirst,

➤ in connection with fastings – *that is*, many times,

➤ in connection with cold and nakedness,

28 apart from the *things* external –

➤ the riotous meeting together against¹⁴ me – *that is*, the *one* day by day,

➤ the care for all of the Ekklesias.

29 Who is weak; and, I am not weak?

Who has been caught in a deathtrap; and, *for my part*, I am not being burned with a fire?

30 If it is necessary to boast about oneself, I shall boast about the *things* from the weakness *that is* mine.

31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus – Anointed One¹⁵, the one who is being a blessed One – knows that I am not lying.

32 In Damascus the ethnarch of Aretas the King was keeping watch over the Damascenes' city¹⁶, wishing¹⁷ to seize me.

¹² 40% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the spelling 'Habraham' here instead of 'Abraham'.

¹³ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the preposition translated as 'in connection with' here.

¹⁴ 87% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'riotous meetings together against' here instead of 'superintendence'.

¹⁵ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the title 'Anointed One' here.

¹⁶ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order 'the Damascenes' city' here instead of 'the city of Damascenes'.

¹⁷ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

33 And, through a window I was let down through the city wall in a basket. And, I escaped from the hands *that were* his.