

This Way Up

Pembroke Bible Chapel
D Axford – Feb 28, 2010
Series No. DA-2COR-28

False Teachers 2 Corinthians 11:7-15

I. PAUL'S DEFENSE (Verses 5-12)

A major theme of 2 Corinthians is Paul's defence against his detractors as seen in many passages (*1:17; 2:17; 4:2; 8:20; 10:2, 10-12, 16; 11:5-12, 18-20; 12:11-13*).

His Ministry: Uniquely given authority and made adequate by God (*1:1, 21; 3:5; 4:1; 5:5; 12:2-7, 9; 13:10*).

His Methods: Death to self and living by faith as God's bondservant (*4:5, 11, 13, 16; 5:7; 6:4*).

His Motives: Love for them from a pure heart with the message of truth from Christ (*1:12; 2:17; 11:7-12, 29*).

II. PAUL'S DETRACTORS (Verses 13-15)

Paul's detractors were in reality false apostles serving Satan but pretending to be the servants of the light and righteousness of Christ whose end was destruction.

Their Ministry: They preached another Jesus, another Spirit, and a false Gospel (*11:3, 4 – see DA-2COR-27*).

Their Methods: They criticized others in order to build themselves up; and gathered a loyal following instead of leading the believers to follow Christ (*see above references*).

Their Motives: While they cleverly hid their evil motives, these three motives were similar to what motivates all men in the flesh.

1. **Power:** They wanted to enslave and dominate the believers to rule over them (*11:20*).
2. **Prestige:** They took pride in outward appearance and put down Paul to make themselves look good (*5:12*).
3. **Purse:** They peddled the word for personal gain and possibly discouraged the Corinthians in their gift to Jerusalem (*2:17; 9:5; 11:7-9*).

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Application

How about me?

My Ministry

What is the greatest ministry? – Evangelist, preacher, teacher, etc? These get a lot of visible notice but God sees the heart. He sees who we really are.

What is the greatest?

It is devotion to Christ. It is getting to know our Lord and Saviour. It is communion with the God of the Universe.

My Methods

Born again

Indwelt by the Holy Spirit

A New Creation in Christ with a new divine nature

In Christ

In His death, burial and resurrection

Do you always carry about in your body the death of the Lord Jesus so that His life can flow through you?

That's the only effective method.

My Motives

What motivates you?

Power, Prestige, or Purse (money)?

Naturally it is one of these.

Are you operating in the natural way, the flesh, or the divine way through the Holy Spirit?

The key to my motivation as a believer is another "P". It is the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is my motivation and my motivator.