Denny+my 26th Anniversary a backdrop...

"Profound allegary" = The bride-to-be is the church; the soon to come husband is the LORD JESUS; the matchmaker who brought them together and who is concerned for the bride's fidelity is Paul. vs 2

>>> Your devotion to Jesus is worth fighting for ! "divine jealousy for you"

1) The GREAT DANGER YOU FACE Not a Christian, this may suprise you

> Led astray from devotion to Christ by "another Jesus...different spirit... different gospel," i.e other than the Jesus, Spirit, Gospel preached by Apostles. (3-4)

> If Like Eve was deceived by Serpent, false Apostles are "deceitful workman disguising themselves as Apostles of Christ." (13-14)

Danger for me today? To be led astray from Apostolic Gospel > Jesus > By the deceit fulness of religion. "Stay devoted to Jesus by devotion to His Gospel and vice-versa"

Really? Is being deceived really a threat? YES!

2 THE DECEITFULNESS OF RELIGION

i.e., not rejecting Paul's message outrightly, but offering something better... how adultery happens?

1. The deceitfulness of performance vs. 5-6

EF.A. paraded a polished oratory
EF Paul concedes he is lit. "layman in speech"
but not in knowledge, Cf. 1 Cor. 2:1-4

Success is a huge idol on east side ... Your ?? "The figure of the crucified invalidates all thought that takes success as its standard." Bonhoeffer

2. The deceitfulness of patronage vs. 7-11

IF.A. "Paul doesn't love you + isn't important b/c he rejects your patronage" Patronage System in Roman Empire

Paul's flexible approach (he does receive support from poor Macedonian churches 8-9) confronts patronage mentality blc he loves them. "God knows I do."

Religious approach to 8 puts Himin your debt. Ex.

# 0/Gospel can't be bought ! Guard V

3. The deceitfulness of righteousness 12-15
What? Yes! The main place Xtians led astray from Jesus is self-righteousness or self-condemnation and idolizing the spirituality/righteousness

IF F.A. disguised "servants of righteousness" > Law/legalism, Cf. Galatians

Paul let the one who boasts, boast in the LORD 10:1

The Q = What has happened to your joy?

4. The deceitfulness of resumee 11:16-33

IF.A. "boast according to the flesh" rs. 18

Praul goes Judo > He boasts in his service of Jesus/church, his suffering for Jesus, his weakness that points to Jesus' strengh, i.e. His Love for, devotion to Jesus hyper, "I am a better one" vs. 23

If you love the groom Jesus what impresses you most? Those who make Jesus great in your \ June 20th, 1992

Seeker Let me serve as matchmaker w. you + Jesus

Xtian Call you to sincere + pure devotion to Jesus