

L29: 2 Corinthians 12:11-21 - Paul's Abundant Love

Sermon Intro: Review/Summarize

- Sufferings and consolation
- Sufferings he is going through for Christ they ought to be going through
- Standing against not with false apostles
- Paul's glory in infirmities

Sermon Preview:

- Paul's abundant love

Sermon:

(2 Corinthians 12:11)

I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you: for in nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles, though I be nothing.

- **"ye have compelled me"**
 - To drive or urge with force, to necessitate; to call forth
 - 2 Cor. 13:3
- **"for I ought to have been commended of you"**
 - 2 Cor. 1:12-14, 2:16-17, 3:1-3, 7:2, 10:15,18
- **"for in nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles"**
 - 2 Cor. 11:5
 - Galatians 2:2-9
 - 1 Cor. 15:10-11
 - "apostle, able minister, ambassadors, belongs to Christ, authority for edification, worker together with God, helper of joy"
 - Honest, sincere
 - Hebrew, Israelite, Seed of Abraham, Minister of Christ and Minister of Christ in Christ's sufferings
- **"though I be nothing"**
 - 1 Cor. 15:9; 1 Tim. 1:12-14

(2 Corinthians 12:12)

Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

- Romans 15:15-21 - see and hear
 - They had signs, Paul had visions, they are justified because of Paul's gospel
 - "all patience, signs, wonders, mighty deeds"
 - 1 Cor. 12-14 - spiritual gifts
 - 1 Cor. 1 - enriched by Him in all things

(2 Corinthians 12:13)

For what is it wherein ye were inferior to other churches, except it be that I myself was not burdensome to you? forgive me this wrong.

- Seeking superiority by the world
- Spiritually not inferior
 - 1 Cor. 1:4-5
- "not burdensome to you?"
 - 2 Cor. 11:7-9 (1 Cor. 9:1-11)

(2 Corinthians 12:14)

Behold, the third time I am ready to come to you; and I will not be burdensome to you: for I seek not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.

- Mouth of two or three witnesses
- Hebrew 5:11-14
- Stand in contrast to the churches of Macedonia (spiritual growth)
- Gospel love
 - Fact check of Paul's love toward them, but their immaturity
 - 1 Cor. 3

(2 Corinthians 12:15)

And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.

- Gospel love
 - They should be spending

- They should be serving (Rom. 16)

(2 Corinthians 12:16)

But be it so, I did not burden you: nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you with guile.

- Didn't come to get their money, but wants their edification

(2 Corinthians 12:17-18)

Did I make a gain of you by any of them whom I sent unto you? I desired Titus, and with him I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit? walked we not in the same steps?

- Developed good relationship with Titus

(2 Corinthians 12:19)

Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying.

- Authority
- "dearly beloved" - Romans 12

(2 Corinthians 12:20)

For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:

- Works of darkness, lack of godly love and charity

(2 Corinthians 12:21)

And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.

- Complete change of mind and obedience

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize