

2/10/13

**Unmasking The Enemy**  
**2Cor. 11:1-6**

Have you ever been in a position of seeing a friend who was being taken advantage of by a person and they were completely blinded to the seduction, yet you could clearly see how the individual was using the person for their own ends!

\* This was exactly the situation at Corinth, the Judaizers had seduce the Corinthians to another gospel and to move against Paul.

Paul had told them that the war is spiritual, they should not be taken in by outward appearances and that he had come to them by God's leading, needing no one to commend him, but God.

He now moves on to plead as a heart broken father who is fearful for his children's deception.

\* This is the true heart of a Shepherd!

**1.** Paul had been forced to defend his apostleship and is embarrassed by it, yet as he addressed himself directly to the Corinthians and indirectly the false teachers and the few that have been taken in by them, he tears his heart open before them.

**2.** Take note that what stands out throughout the epistle and more so in these last four chapters, is Paul's primary concern that the Corinthians saints

not to be deceived, rather than to vindicate himself for self-glory.

**3.** So Paul plays the part of a fool in boasting about himself reluctantly, lowering himself to the level of these hucksters, with sarcastic irony. 2Cor. 11:1-12:13

The difference between the boasting of Paul and these false apostles is that Paul's boasting is based on truth, the boasting of the false apostles is based on lies.

So Paul begins in his desired to unmask the enemy by calling for the Corinthians to listen to him, in order that he might give to them three reasons for his concern about their spiritual deception by the Judaizers. 2Cor 1;1-6

**I.** Paul was their spiritual father. vs. 1-2

**II.** Paul was their faithful teacher. vs. 3-4

**III.** Paul was their original apostle. vs. 5-6

**I. The apostle Paul was their spiritual father. vs. 1-2**

\* The Corinthians were courting seduction!

**A.** Paul pleaded passionately for their patience. vs. 1

**1.** The voice is one of a father concerned and worried for his children. vs. 1a-b

\* "Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly."

- a. His passion is expressed by the word “Oh”, almost apologetic and yet urgent in his love for them.
  - 1) The tone of the voice obviously can not be heard as we read the letter.
  - 2) Yet knowing the nature of the letter, the context and human nature, it is understood.
- b. His plead was that they would put up with him a bit longer with him what he himself admits to be a bit foolish.
  - 1) The word bear “anechomai”, means to endure or forebear. vs. 4, 19, 20  
\* Remember he has just told them about the boasting of the Judaizers comparing themselves among themselves as they had encroached building on his ministry. 2Cor. 10:12-18
  - 2) The word folly “aphrosune” means foolishness or senseless nonsense. 2Cor. 11:17; 21  
\* Fool “aphron”, one without reason, senseless, stupid. 2Cor. 11:16; 19; 12:6; 11
  - 3) The false teachers had commended the Corinthians for putting up with “fools”, referring to Paul and his companions, so Paul in tongue and cheek reverses it on them. vs. 19

- \* Paul is using sarcastic irony to expose the false teachers who were the real fools.
- 2. The patience of the Corinthians up to this point is acknowledged by the affirmation of their patient. vs. 1c  
\* “And indeed you did bear with me.”
  - a. Paul had defended his ministry for seven chapter.
  - b. Paul had defended his request for the offering to the poor saints in Jerusalem for two.
  - c. Paul now was going to defend his apostleship for three more chapters, four in total.
  - d. The tense is the indicative present tense, affirming they had been patient all along.  
\* Some take this to be an imperative, but it seem kind of odd to entreat them and then command them.
- B. The apostle Paul pleaded passionately for their spiritual purity. vs. 2
  - 1. Paul was jealous for them after a godly manner not ungodly. vs. 2a  
\* “For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy.”
    - a. He gives the reason for his plead for them to be patient with him.

- 1) The word for “gar”, is called a primary particle conjunction.
  - 2) It introduces the reason or explanation for his plead for their patience.
- b. He is specific about the kind of jealousy that has gripped him.
- 1) The kind of jealousy Paul was displaying was godly “theos”, that which found its origin in God.
  - 2) The word jealousy “zeloo”, means to burn with zeal, to be heated or boil with envy, hatred or anger.
  - 3) He was not jealous over the Corinthians or that other teachers taught the Corinthians, but that these hucksters were attempting to seduce them spiritually, away from Christ.
- c. The zeal of jealousy of Paul was for the good of the Corinthians, for their protection.
- 1) God declared in the Old Testament that He was jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with great jealousy. Zach. 1:14
  - 2) Paul’s love was the manifestation of God’s love through him, even when he declared that he could wish himself accursed for Israel’s sake. Rom. 9:3

- 3) It has been said that, “human jealousy is a vice, but divine jealousy is a virtue.”
2. Paul had engaged the Corinthians to one husband, using a figurative metaphor. vs. 2b
- \* “For I have betrothed you to one husband.”
- a. The betrothal period was a one year period which a man and woman lived as husband and wife without consummating the wedding sexually.
    - 1) The word betrothed “hamozo”, means to join or fit together, Literally, “I did espouse”, indicative aorist middle.
    - 2) This took place at the time of the pledge of the woman to the man by her father, Paul is playing the father, the Corinthians the bride.
    - 3) One husband is emphatic, corresponding to “as a chaste virgin” in the next verse.
    - 4) The two become one flesh, no longer one.
    - 5) The oneness in our modern day takes place at the altar in their vows before God.
    - 6) The sexual oneness takes place at the honeymoon, in celebration of being one.

- b. If they chose not to consummate the marriage and dissolve the marriage, they would have to be legally divorced.
  - 1) So you could in a reality be a divorcee virgin, having never consummated the marriage.
  - 2) Now, it was during this one year period that Mary found herself to be pregnant with Jesus.
  - 3) Joseph did not want to have her stoned, but offered to put her away privately, until the angel Gabriel told him she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit.
- 3. Paul declared that the purpose of betrothing them was to hand them over, the bride, to Jesus at the marriage. vs. 2c
  - \* “that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ.”
  - a. He used the figurative metaphor of a chaste virgin.
    - 1) Chaste “hagnos”, pure immaculate, clean.
    - 2) Virgin “parthenos”, a woman who never had sex or penetrated.
  - b. He saw himself as the father passionately desiring to present his daughter honorably undefiled by another, to the husband he promised her to, Christ.

- 1) Such was the metaphor of marriage used of Israel to God. Is. 54:5; 62:5; Ezk. 16:8; Hos. 2:19
- 2) Such is the metaphor of Christ and his bride the church, “Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.” Eph. 5:25c-27; Rev. 19:9; 21:9
- b. He saw himself as the one responsible to do everything in his power to insure the ongoing purity of the daughter till the time he handed her to her husband in order that he consummate the marriage, having evidence of her virginity.
  - 1) The disciples of John the Baptist were complained that all were going to Jesus, he said, “He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled.” Jn. 3:29

**Illustration**

What father is not jealous in a godly manner to present his daughter a pure virgin to her husband and outraged over any attempt to robe her purity?

**Application**

1. The believer is to lovingly reach out to those who are courting spiritual seduction with fear and a compassionate heart. Jude 1:23

\* “But others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.”

2. The Holy Spirit is said to be jealous for us, due to the fact that He knows He is the only One that can fulfill us and not the things of this world. Ja. 4:5

\* “Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously?”

3. The Law declared Israel, the people of God were to be loyal to Yahweh their husband.

\* “For you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” Ex. 34:14

4. The fruit of the Spirit is to be the very motive of our pleading with people. Gal. 5:22

\* “But the fruit of the Spirit is “agape love”, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.” Gal. 5:22

*Paul was their spiritual father who was concerned about their courting seduction!*

**II. Paul was their teacher. vs. 3-4**

\* The Corinthians were believing lies!

A. The apostle Paul expressed his concern of the possible violation of their faithfulness to Christ. vs. 3

1. Paul declared the method of their seduction to be as when Satan deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden. vs. 3a-c

\* “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness.”

a. His fear was real not imaginary or hypothetical.

1) The word but “de” marks the sharp contrast between her state of being a chaste virgin and the possibility of being seduced.

2) The word fear “phobeo”, means to be put to flight by being terrified or scared.

3) The tense is the indicative present.

b. His emphasis is spiritual, but is literal.

1) The serpent was to remind them of the vileness and danger of the act under guise by the Jewish false teacher and prophets.

- 2) The word deceived “exapotao”, is the intensified form, “completely deceived.” Rom. 7:10, 2Thess. 2:2
- 3) Going from grace to law, from the ministry of life to the ministry of death. 2Cor. 3
- c. His description of the serpent indicates deception by distorting the word of God to misrepresent God. Gen. 3:1-6
  - 1) Satan created doubt in the mind of Eve, “has God said”, so had the false teacher about Paul.
  - 2) Satan contradicted God’s word, “You shall not die”, so had the false teacher contradicted Paul’s reaching.
  - 3) Satan charged God with wanting to restrict her freedom, “God knows the day you eat, you will just like Him”, so the false teacher had said against Paul.
- d. The word craftiness “panourgia”, means extreme malignity which is capable of anything, stopping at nothing to accomplish it’s evil goal.
  - 1) Paul used it earlier, “But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness “panourgia”, nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by

- manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.” 2Cor. 4:2
- 2) Paul will use it again, “But be that *as it may*, I did not burden you. Nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you by cunning!” 2Cor. 12:16
- 3) Paul already warned them about not being ignorant about the devices or schemes of Satan, lest he take advantage of them. 2Cor. 2:11
- 2. Paul declared the outcome of such craftiness would be to defile her loyalty and faithfulness that belong to Christ alone. vs. 3c
  - \* “so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”
  - a. He stated their minds would be corrupted “phtheiro”, means to fill them with evil.
    - 1) The aorist passive, an effective aorist, the Greek scholar Lenski points out.
    - 2) Literally, “be actually corrupted”.
  - b. He stated this corruption of evil was regarding “the simplicity that is in Christ.”

- 1) To destroy and soiled their simplicity “haplotes” the singleness, sincerity and mental honesty in their relation to Christ.
  - 2) Simplicity is a key word in the epistle, single mindedness. 2Cor. 1:12, 8:2, 9:11, 13, 11:3
  - 2) Not allowing themselves to be enticed to give their affections to another Jesus.
  - 3) Not allowing themselves to be lured by the bait dangled before them.
  - 4) “Pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.” 2Cor. 10:4-5
- b.** He stated the goal being to lead away the Christian and church from that state of knowledge and holiness in which it ought to abide.
- 1) Paul in a type of allegory makes the church at Corinth representative of Eve.
  - 2) The deceiver Satan through the serpent representative of the false teachers.
  - 3) The Corinthians had been blinded, they did not see the deception!

- B.** The apostle Paul expressed his concern over the Corinthians having embraced a counterfeit message. vs. 4
1. Paul gave the reason for his concern over their spiritual seduction by Satan, the first being the preaching of another Jesus. vs. 4a
    - \* “For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached.”
    - a.** The word “if” does not imply a hypothetical condition, but a real one at hand.
      - 1) The Judaizers had come in to proselytize the Christians
      - 2) The present condition of the church was due to their false teaching.
    - b.** The word preaches “kerusso”, means a herald who often announced public proclamations.
      - 1) The word is used for those who preach the gospel.
      - 2) The context is a false gospel.
    - c.** The Jesus being preached by the Judaizers was not the same one Paul and his co-laborers had preached.
      - 1) The word another “allos”, means another of the same kind, but distinct from the Jesus of Paul.
      - 2) They were not teaching Jesus as the all sufficient and efficacious sin

bearing Messiah for a sinners justification, but the earthly Jesus, stressing the Judaism of Jesus in a false way, the law.

2. Paul gave the second reason for his concern over their spiritual seduction. vs. 4b
  - \* “or *if* you receive a different spirit which you have not received.”
  - a. The word receive “lambano”, means to procure for oneself.
    - \* The tense is present active, ongoing!
  - b. The word different “heteros”, means to one opposed to some former person or thing, another not of the same nature, form, class or kind.
    - \* We get our word hetero-sexual, of an opposite sex, male and female.
  - c. The word spirit “pneuma”, indicate the human spirit.
    - 1) The spirit by which the false teachers were teaching and depending on, it not capitalized.
    - 2) This human spirit is opposed to the Holy Spirit, the only One who can convict a man of sin, reveals Christ and illuminates out understanding of the Scriptures. Jn. 14-16
  - d. You have not received, “lambano”, indicative aorist active.

\* Not from Paul or his companions, but the false teachers!

3. Paul gave the third reason for his concern over their spiritual seduction. vs. 4c
  - \* “or a different gospel which you have not accepted.”
  - a. The phrase different gospel “euangelion herteros”, indicates good news opposed to the former.
    - 1) The word different “hereros”, once again refers to one opposed to the former gospel they had accepted.
    - 2) The gospel “euangelion” so called good news, but is another not of the same nature, form, class or kind, therefore false.
  - b. This contradictory gospel they have not accepted in the past from Paul or his companions.
    - 1) The word accepted “dechomai”, means to receive and grant access for themselves from Paul.
    - 2) The tense is the indicative aorist middle, but from the false teachers.
4. Paul charged them of being guilty of allowing themselves to be deceived, in danger of being spiritually seduces, as a sharp rebuke. vs. 4
  - \* “you may well put up with it!”
  - a. Literally, “Well were you bearing with them.”



- 1) The tense is the imperative imperfect middle. Lenski
  - 2) They were of their own will going along with it.
  - 3) The phrase put up with “anechomai”, is the exact word of verse one, translated “bear with me”.
  - 4) What did you do? Did you rebuke them or correct them? No, you tolerated them, received and embraced them!
- b.** They were taken in and opened their minds and heart to both the false messengers and false gospel.
- 1) They were in danger of being deceived. vs. 3
  - 2) They were in danger of making shipwreck of the faith. vs. 4

### **Illustration**

The danger with counterfeit bills is that they look so authentic, but if they are examined to the genuine one, they prove to be worthless in contrast to the authentic one!

### **Application**

1. The Mormons preach Jesus, but their Jesus is not the Biblical Jesus, their Jesus is half brother to Satan, Jehovah Witnesses preach a Jesus who is Michael the Arch Angel and yet others present

Jesus as One who tolerates a sinful life-style, as long as you just believe in Jesus, both are unbiblical and an insult to God.

- a.** The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus is God who became man who die for our sins. Jn. 1:1, 14, 2Cor. 5:21
  - b.** By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. 1Jn. 4:2-3
- 2.** The modern day heretics teach unbiblical doctrines by a different spirit.
- a.** Teaching people laugh and bark in the spirit, act like animals to express themselves and to be drunk in the spirit.
  - b.** Teaching about seeing orahs around people, that Christians can be demon possessed, that there are those who imparts new revelation for today equal to Scripture.
  - c.** The Scriptures are clear, the Holy Spirit does not speak of Himself nor glorifies Himself, instead He teaches only what Jesus taught and leads us into all truth and the Canon is closed. Jn. 14:26, 15:26, 16:13-14, 2Tim. 3:16-17, 2Pet. 1:18-21

3. The gospel of our day has presented many different gospels that are foreign to the Biblical gospel of good news to save man. Rom. 1:16-17  
 \* For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."
- a. There is the gospel of "Liberation Theology" that focuses on social justice motivated by hate, desire for power or revenge through social rebellion. Rev. Right, the Pastor of President Obama
  - b. There is the gospel of "Kingdom theology", that teaches that we are to take back territory from Satan by putting Christians into public office, in order that we eventually bring in the Kingdom.
  - c. There is the gospel of "prosperity" that declares that it is your divine right to be healthy and wealthy for you are God's child.
  - d. There is the gospel of "little gods" that teaches you can command God to be your errand boy by your positive confession.
    - 1) "But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other **gospel** to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed", he says it twice. Gal. 1:8
    - 2) The Holy Spirit says clearly, "That in the latter times some will depart from the

- faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons." 1Tim. 4:1
4. The "Emerging church" seeks to establish the Kingdom of God through good works and is no gospel.
- a. Undermining the word of God and Gospel of grace for salvation.
  - b. Roger Oakland in his book "Faith Undone", proves the "Emerging church", rejects the Bible as the authority, disdains prophecy saying Christians have wasted time focusing so much on the Second Coming, despising anyone who takes the return of Jesus literal.
    - 1 One of the prominent voices of the "Emerging Church Movement", Brian McLaren says the book of Revelation is about "the Kingdom of God now", claiming Jesus had nothing to say about a period of catastrophic judgment. (Faith Undone:158)
    - 2) Brian McLaren said, "We are emerging into a new era of Christian faith as a "living color" global community. ...It is immediately clear that this kind of emergence must lead to a convergence... a kind of relationship that has never before existed." (Faith Undone:224)
    - 3) Leonard Sweet, Dan Kimball, Thomas Merton, Richard Foster are some of the Gurus of the "Emerging Church Movement", which Rick Warren

embraces, who is the stepping-stone to the “ECM.

- c. The “Emerging Church” teaches that the life of Christ is only an example to follow, not atoning for the sins of the world.
  - 1) They preach the “cosmic Christ”.
  - 2) The “god in you” “the Christ in you” of New Age, revived Hinduism.
  - 3) They teach contemplative prayer.
- c. “The Berean Call” whose founder is Dave Hunt says the following about EMC: Sept. 2007, Vol. XX!! NO. 9
  - 1) The “ECM” professes to speak to today’s culture about the relevance of Christianity and the value of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - 2) The truth is that the ECM rather than restoring value to the church is doing the contrary by going against the Scriptures.
    - \* Ray Yungen, Warren Smith.

*Paul was their faithful teacher who was concerned about their believing lies!*

### III. Paul was their original apostle. vs. 5-6

\* The Corinthians were embracing impostors!

- A. The apostle Paul declared to the Corinthians he was not inferior to the false apostles. vs. 5

- \* “For I consider that I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles.”
- 1. Paul made it perfectly clear that at no time and in any way was he less qualified than the false apostles.
  - a. He was probably was offended that the Corinthians had compared him to these false teachers.
    - 1) The word considered “logizomai”, means to reckon, compute and calculate, with the idea of measuring.
    - 2) The false teachers were apostles of Moses, not Jesus.
    - 3) Paul had sat under the feet of Gamaliel, received the gospel from Jesus and disciple by Jesus for three years in Arabia. Acts 22:3; Gal. 1:12;16-18
  - b. He had nothing in common with the false apostles, it was an insult.
    - 1) The phrase not a all inferior “medeis hustereo”, means to be devoid or less in power, influence, rank or any other quality.
    - 2) The Judaizers measured themselves by themselves and compared themselves among themselves. 2Cor. 10:12
    - 3) The ministers of Christ boasted in the God, the appointed territory for

- ministry and depended on God's commendation. 2Cor. 10:13, 18
2. Paul made it perfectly clear he was referring to the Judaizer at Corinth by the title of eminent apostles.
    - a. He is not comparing himself to the twelve apostles.
      - 1) The context is the false teachers, indicated by the phrase, "he who comes", in verse four.
      - 2) The reference is not to Peter, James or any other leading elders of the church at Jerusalem.
    - b. He used the title is sarcastic irony, ridiculing them, as they were exalting themselves above Paul.
      - 1) The word eminent "lian", means greatly, chief, exceedingly or exceedingly beyond measure.
      - 2) They thought themselves to be of greater authority and superior spirituality than Paul.
    - b. They are identified by Paul as false and deceptive Judaizers.
      - 1) They are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. vs. 13  
\* The word transforming means only outward as a disguise, not an inward change as the believer!

- 2) The Judaizers were ministers of Satan who transform themselves into ministers of righteousness in order to deceive. vs. 14-15
  - 3) Their identity was Hebrews and Israelites. vs. 22
- B.** The apostle Paul declared to the Corinthians they were wrong in believing the lie of the false apostles about not being proficient in public speaking. vs. 6
1. Paul refuted this charge about his inability to speak publicly. vs. 6  
\* "Even though *I am* untrained in speech."
  - a. He was saying, "What if it is true, but I am not in knowledge.
    - 1) The false teachers were accusing Paul of not being a professional orator, in speech contemptible. 2Cor. 10:10
    - 2) The word untrained "idiotes", has the article "the speech", referring to a polished lecturer in the art of Greek rhetoric.
    - 3) The word is used for the disciples of Jesus, they perceived that Peter and John were unlearned and uneducated men. Acts 4:13

- 4) The word was used for one who attended his own affairs and not to public life.
- b. He revealed his proficiency at different times, as he preached the gospel.
  - 1) At Lystra Paul was acknowledge to be the god Hermes because he was the chief speaker. Acts 14:12
  - 2) At Mars Hill, he addressed the men of Athens. Acts 17:22
2. Paul affirmed that he was very able in knowledge. vs. 6b

\* “yet *I am* not in knowledge.”

  - a. The sharp contrast is clear yet “*alla*”, contrary or nevertheless.
    - 1) “I am not in knowledge.
    - 2) The word knowledge “*gnosis*”, means general knowledge and understanding.
  - b. The context refers to the general knowledge of Christianity and he person of Jesus Christ, the article is also present “the knowledge”.
    - 1) The word was a key word in the first letter to them, appearing ten times.
    - 2) They were depending on human knowledge and wisdom over God’s.

3. Paul confirmed that he and the others with him had revealed all this plainly before them. vs. 6c

\* “But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things.”

  - a. The word manifest “*phaneroo*”, refers to making actual and visible.
  - b. They had been and made themselves completely open, hiding nothing from them whether by words, or deeds, or in any other way in the knowledge of God.

### Illustration

The danger with a plane being one degree off on take off is that it will never reach it’s destination.

### Application

1. There are many today that declare themselves to be apostles and claim the same authority, but they are self appointed as these Judaizers.
  - a. “Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?” 1Cor. 9:1
  - b. “If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.” 1Cor. 9:2
  - c. “For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.” 1Cor. 15:9

- d. “For which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle--I am speaking the truth in Christ *and* not lying--a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.” 1Tim. 2:7
2. We are called to examine those who claim to be from God and warn others if they are not of God.
- a. “Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? --unless indeed you are disqualified.” 2Cor. 13:5
- b. “But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.” Gal. 6:4
- c. “From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.” Gal. 6:17
- d. “Therefore I testify to you this day that I *am* innocent of the blood of all *men*. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for

three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified”. Acts 20:26-32

***Paul was their original apostle, who was concerned about their embracing impostors!***

### **Conclusion**

Paul has unmask the enemy giving them three reasons for his concern about their spiritual deception by the Judaizers:

- I** Paul was their spiritual father, who was concerned about their courting seduction!
- II.** Paul was their faithful teacher, who was concerned about their believing lies!
- III.** Paul was their original apostle, who was concern about their embracing impostors!