

Lesson 11

2 Corinthians 11:1-33

- **Questions**

1. What did Paul wish concerning the Corinthians (11:1)?
2. What godly attitude did Paul have toward the Corinthians (11:2)?
3. What relationship were the Corinthians to have with Christ (11:2)?
4. What did Paul fear concerning the Corinthians (11:3)?
5. What danger of corruption was present at Corinth (11:4)?
6. What did Paul write concerning his apostleship and his speech (11:5-6; see 10:10)?
7. What did Paul refuse when he was at Corinth (11:7; see 12:13)?
8. How was Paul financially supported when he was at Corinth (11:8-9)?
9. What was in Paul and how did he feel about his work in Achaia (11:10; see 13:8)?
10. How did Paul feel about the Corinthians (11:11; see also 12:15)?

11. What opportunity did Paul want to eliminate concerning his opponents (11:12)?
12. How did Paul describe his opponents (11:13, 15; see 11:3)?
13. How did Paul describe Satan (11:14)?
14. What two ways did Paul speak at this point in the letter (11:16-17; compare with 11:1)?
15. What did Paul do in this portion of the letter that his opponents had done (11:18)?
16. What had the Corinthians been doing with Paul's opponents (11:19; see 11:4)?
17. What five things did the Corinthians allow themselves to suffer at the hands of Paul's opponents (11:20)?
18. How did Paul speak and what attitude did he show (11:21; compare with 11:1, 16-17)?
19. How was Paul like his opponents (11:22-23)?
20. What physical labors and sufferings did Paul experience during his apostolic ministry (11:23-27)?

21. What else did Paul endure daily in addition to his external sufferings (11:28)?
 22. What feelings did Paul have concerning his ministry (11:29-30; see 12:5, 9)?
 23. What did God know about Paul (11:31)?
 24. What peril did Paul add to his previous list of sufferings (11:32-33)?
- **Digging Deeper**
1. How was Paul writing with “foolishness” and “glory” (boasting) in this portion of the letter (11:1, 16-17, 21, 23; see also 12:11)?
 2. What kind of jealousy is godly and what kind of jealousy is a work of the flesh (11:2; see 12:20)? What OT scriptures speak of Israel being “espoused” or “betrothed” to God (11:2)?
 3. What OT account is referenced in 11:3?
 4. How did Paul support himself when he was in Corinth the first time (11:7-11; Acts 18:1-4; 1 Cor. 4:12; 9:6; Phil. 4:15-16)?
 5. What had Paul’s opponents done at Corinth that showed they engaged in self-praise (11:18; see 5:12; 10:7, 12)?

6. Where in the book of Acts do we find examples of Paul's labors and sufferings mentioned in 11:23-28 and 11:31-32? Why would the Jews beat a man and why did they stop at 39 lashes (11:24; Deut. 25:1-3)? What do we know about "Aretas the king" (Aretas IV Philopateris) in 11:32?

• **Applications for Today**

1. Christians are "espoused" (married) to Christ (11:2). What kind of "wife" is the church to be to Christ (Rev. 19:6-8)?
2. The devil beguiles people to get them to do what they should not do (11:3). What kind of devices (2 Cor. 2:11) and wiles (Eph. 6:11) does the devil use?
3. Some do not preach the true Jesus, but "another Jesus" (11:4). What do some attempt to preach (Gal. 1:6-9)?
4. Preachers can be supported by working with their own hands, or by receiving wages from a church or churches (11:7-9). What "right" do preachers have (1 Cor. 9:7-14)?
5. False teachers, like Satan, are deceitful (11:13-15). How do some false teachers act (Rom. 16:17-18; Tit. 1:10-11; Rev. 2:2)?
6. Sometimes it is necessary to speak like a fool would speak (11:16-21). How should one answer a fool (Prov. 26:5)?
7. Christians, like Paul, should be willing to endure hardships for the cause of Christ (11:22-33). What do faithful Christians partake in (1 Pet. 4:13)?