

SATAN'S PREACHERS IN THE CHURCH AT CORINTH
II COR 11:13-20

Introduction:

- A. The title of this message is frightening.
 - 1. First, that Satan would be so bold.
 - 2. Second, that the church would receive them.

- B. This church was at the cross-roads.
 - 1. Continue to accept these men, lose candlestick.
 - 2. Expel them from their midst, remain scriptural.

I. SATAN'S PREACHERS WERE NOT GOD-CALLED.

- A. God never called any man to preach untruths.
 - 1. They preached "another Jesus."
 - 2. They preached "another Spirit."
 - 3. They preached "another gospel."

- B. A God called man may preach untruths but that isn't what God called him to preach!
 - 1. There must be a standard to use in judging.
 - 2. Not simply using words found in the Bible.

II. THE TRUE CHARACTER OF SATAN'S PREACHERS. V13-15

- A. They were false apostles.
 - 1. false = pseudes - opposite of what is true, lying.
 - 2. They assumed the highest title.

- B. They were deceitful workers.
 - 1. deceitful = dolos = a bait, hence the adulteration of truth to catch or deceive.
 - 2. workers = ergates = a labourer, a doer of anything.

- C. They were self-changed and self-appointed.
 - 1. "transforming themselves." metaschematizo - to change the outward figure, alter the shape, meta + schemea = to change the scheme.

2. "apostles of Christ," Only Christ could choose and appoint His Apostles.

D. They were not unusual phenomena. v14

1. marvel = thaumatos = wondrous, wonderful, strange.
2. Satan doesn't look like the Devil.

E. They have a kind of righteousness, v15a

1. They have outward Piety.
2. They were righteous according to the flesh.

F. They have a destiny in hell. v15b

1. "Whose end shall be according to their works."

III. PAUL DID NOT WANT TO BE LIKE THEM. V16-18

A. Paul feared that the Corinthians would interpret his vindicating his ministry as bragging or boasting. v16

1. I'm not a fool, if you think I am listen anyway.

B. Boasting is not Christ-like. v17

1. If Paul was boasting, it was not Christ-like.

C. He could speak in the flesh if others could. v18

1. glory = kauchaomai - to speak loud, to brag.

IV. THE CHURCHES ACCEPTANCE OF THEM. V19

A. "For ye suffer fools gladly."

1. gladly - hedeos, sweetly, with relish of eating, readily and with pleasure.
2. suffer = anechomai = to have patience with.

B. "seeing ye yourselves are wise."

1. wise = phronimos = practically wise, sensible.

V. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THEIR MINISTRY. V20

- A. They enslaved people.
 - 1. "if a man bring you into bondage."
 - 2. bondage = katadouloi = to enslave, doulos, the lowest word in the scale of servitude.

- B. They demanded more than enough.
 - 1. "if a man devour you."
 - 2. devour = katesthio - to eat down, to swallow up, As the Pharisees devoured widow's houses. Matt. 23:14.

- C. They ensnared the people.
 - 1. "if a man take of you."
 - 2. take = lambanei - to take, to receive, catch you, as birds in a snare, or fish with bait.

- D. They debased the people.
 - 1. "if a man exalt himself."
 - 2. exalt = epairetai = to lift one's self, to exalt oneself, self-exaltation.
 - 3. To exalt oneself, others must be abased.

- E. They insulted the people.
 - 1. "if a man smite you on the face."
 - 2. smite = deri - to skin, to strike.
 - 3. To smite on the face was the highest indignity.
 - a. Jesus, Luke 22:64.
 - b. Paul, Acts 23:2.

VI. QUESTIONS FOR OUR CONSIDERATION.

- A. Does Satan have ministers now?
 - 1. The devil has not changed.
 - 2. He had had his men of the cloth all the time.

- B. Are they in the true churches?
 - 1. No, they pastor false churches.
 - 2. They are false apostles in false churches.

- C. What is the appearance of these ministers?
 - 1. They are seen as angels of light.
 - 2. They have a kind of righteousness.

- D. What are their characteristics?
 - 1. They are the same.