

2 Corinthians 11:20 – Part 4

12/20/23

- Tonight – Opportunity to give a Bible study
- Comment – I recently began a 5-part series about 2 Corinthians 11:20
- Title – 2 Corinthians 11:20 – Part 4

- Context – warning about the behavior of people called religious leaders
(An observant person will recognize that this information can be applied to people who are called secular leaders)

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| 2 Cor. 11:13 | false apostles – deceitful workers – transforming themselves into apostles |
| 14 | Satan transforms himself into an angel of light |
| 15 | his ministers transform themselves into servants of righteousness |
| 20 | 5 negative behaviors |
| | (I believe that Paul was identifying the wrong behavior of the followers – more than the wrong behavior of the fake apostles) |

- #1 – Paul identified – people following other people into bondage
- #2 – Paul identified – people allowing other people to devour them
- #3 – Paul identified – people allowing other people to take away from them –
(which I believe applies mainly to money or property)
- #4 – Paul identified – people allowing other people to exalt themselves over them

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| King James | for you suffer – if a man exalts himself [over] |
| New King James | for you put up with it – if one exalts himself [over] |
| Revised Standard | for you bear it – if a man puts on airs |
| Amplified New Testament | for you endure it – if a man is arrogant and puts on airs |

- “Allowing religious people to exalt themselves over you” versus “Teaching people to be humble servants” – 4 concepts
 1. Do NOT follow religious people who seek to exalt themselves over you
(Many people who allege to be religious leaders are not from God)
(Resisting someone does not have to be confrontational)

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| Acts 8:18-19 | Simon wanted power |
| 20-23 | Peter corrected him |

- 3 John 9 Diotrephes – loved the pre-eminence – did not receive John
10 Diotrephes – prating against John with malicious words – did not receive the brethren – putting people out of the church
2. Do NOT adopt the leadership style of exalting yourself over people
- Matt. 20:25 rulers of the Gentiles = lord it over the people.....the great = exercise authority over them
26-27 it shall not be so among you – great = servant – first = slave
28 did not come to be served – to serve & to give His life a ransom for many
- Matt. 23:12 exalts himself = will be humbled.....humbles himself = will be exalted
4 they bind heavy burdens – but they will not move them with their fingers
5 to be seen by people – phylacteries broad & enlarge borders of garments
6 they love the best places at feasts, and the best seats in the synagogues
7-10 they love to be called fancy titles
11 the greatest – will be your servant
- Luke 14:11 exalts himself = will be humbled.....humbles himself = will be exalted
7-10 when invited – do not choose the best place – sit at lowest place
- Luke 18:14 exalts himself = will be humbled.....humbles himself = will be exalted
9 the parable to those who trusted in themselves – and despised others
10-13 contrasting prayers of 2 men
3. Understand the danger of pride
- 1 Sam. 15:17 “when you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel?” – “and did not the Lord anoint you king over Israel?”
- Isaiah 10:5 woe to Assyria
12 arrogant heart of the king of Assyria
13 “by the strength of my hand”
15 “shall the ax boast itself?”
- Isaiah 14:12-14 Lucifer – wanted to ascend
4. Teaching people to be humble servants
- Phil. 2:1-2 comfort of love – fellowship of Spirit – affection & mercy – His love
3 not selfish ambition or conceit – let each esteem others better than himself
4 not look out only for his own interests – also for the interests of others
5-11 example of Christ Jesus
19-24 example of Timothy
- 1 Thes. 2:6 we did not seek glory from men
7 we were gentle among you – as a nursing mother cherishes her children
8 imparted not only the gospel – gave their lives
- 1 Peter 5:2-3 overseers – not by compulsion, but willingly – not for dishonest gain, but eagerly – not being overlords, but an example
4 when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory