

2 Corinthians 11:20 – Part 2

12/6/23

- 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 2

- 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)

2 Cor. 11:13	false apostles – deceitful workers – transforming themselves into apostles of Christ
14	Satan transforms himself into an apostle of Christ
15	therefore – it is no surprise that his ministers transform themselves into servants of righteousness – their end = according to their works
16-19	Paul did a little boasting
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

King James	for you suffer – if a man devours you
New King James	for you put up with it – if one devours you
Revised Standard	for you bear it – if a man preys upon you
Amplified New Testament	for you endure it – if a man devours and preys upon you

- “Allowing other people to devour you” versus “Helping people to find Maturity and Edification” – 4 concepts

1. Understand – the Son of God allowed Himself to be devoured

John 2:18	the Jews asked for a sign
19	He said – “destroy this temple, and in 3 days I will raise it up”
20	it has taken 46 years to build this temple, & will you raise it up in 3 days?

21 He was speaking of His body
 John 10:17 My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life (that I may take it again)
 18 no one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself – I have power to lay
 it down, and I have power to take it again – this command I have
 received of My Father
 John 19:11 you could have no power at all against Me, unless it had been given you
 from above – therefore, the one who delivered Me to you has the
 greater sin

2. Do NOT seek out religious people who openly devour people

John 16:2 they will put you out of the synagogues – yes, the time is coming that
 whoever kills you will think that he offers God service
 Acts 20:28 overseers yes – but the people are God’s people
 29-30 acknowledging – attacks from without and attacks from within
 31 Paul warned – with tears
 32 “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 the sanctified
 33-35 Paul wasn’t serving them for the money – (or power)
 1 Tim. 5:20 Paul taught – there is a time to rebuke in the presence of all – (others)
 2 Cor. 10:1-2 often, start with meekness and gentleness – progress to boldness
 Gal. 6:1 spiritual – restore in spirit of meekness

3. Do NOT feel trapped by religious people who seek to devour you
 (Many people who allege to be a religious leader are not from

God)

(Resisting someone does not have to be confrontational)

Matt. 4:3-10 the devil sought to manipulate the Son of God
 1 Sam. 26:21 Saul confessed to David his sin against David – Saul apparently, wanted
 David to return
 22-24 David said in effect – “no thank you”
 John 8:59 the Son of God hid Himself – and left the temple in the middle of crowd
 John 10:39-40 the Son of God escaped out of their hand – beyond the Jordan
 John 12:36 the Son of God was hidden from them
 John 13:27 it was time – for Judas to leave
 John 18:11 it was time – for the soldiers to take Him
 John 19:32-37 it was time – for a soldier to pierce His side

4. Lead people toward maturity and edification – (building up)

Eph. 4:11-12 servants – to edify – (not a system of control)
 13-16 faith and knowledge – not children – part of the Body – edification in love
 Rom. 12:6-8 7 gifts
 Prophecy – Ministry (service) – Teaching – Exhorting – Giving –
 Leading – Showing mercy (with cheerfulness)
 1 Cor. 3:14-15 each person’s work – will be evaluated – by the Father and Son