

2 Corinthians 11

Chapter 11 of 13 · 33 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Paul and the False Apostles

¹ Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me.

² For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

³ But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

⁴ For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

⁵ For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.

⁶ But though I be rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.

⁷ Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely?

⁸ I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service.

⁹ And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.

¹⁰ As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia.

- 11 Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth.
- 12 But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we.
- 13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
- 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
- 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.
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Paul's Sufferings as an Apostle

- 16 I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little.
- 17 That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting.
- 18 Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also.
- 19 For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.
- 20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face.
- 21 I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also.
- 22 Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I.
- 23 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.
- 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.

31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.

32 In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me:

33 And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Angel — ἄγγελος (Angelos)

Angel, messenger

The Greek **angelos** (ἄγγελος) means angel or messenger. Angels announced Christ's birth (Luke 2:9-14), ministered to Him (Matthew 4:11), and will accompany His return (Matthew 25:31).

Apostle — ἀπόστολος (Apostolos)

Apostle, sent one

The Greek **apostolos** (ἀπόστολος) means apostle or sent one—an authorized messenger. The twelve apostles were chosen by Christ and empowered as His witnesses, laying the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Gospel — εὐαγγέλιον (Euangelion)

Good news, gospel

The Greek **euangelion** (εὐαγγέλιον) means good news or gospel—the message of salvation through Christ's death and resurrection. It's 'the power of God unto salvation' (Romans 1:16).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Love — ἀγάπη (Agape)

Divine love

The Greek **agape** (ἀγάπη) denotes self-sacrificial, unconditional love—the highest form of love, characterizing God's nature (1 John 4:8) and the love Christians are called to demonstrate.

Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaios)

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaios** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

Spirit — πνεῦμα (Pneuma)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Greek **pneuma** (πνεῦμα) means spirit, wind, or breath—the immaterial aspect of persons. The Holy Spirit (Pneuma Hagion) is the third person of the Trinity, dwelling in believers.

Truth — ἀλήθεια (Aletheia)

Truth, reality

The Greek **aletheia** (ἀλήθεια) denotes truth or reality—that which corresponds to actuality. Jesus declared, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life' (John 14:6), embodying ultimate reality.

CROSS REFERENCES

2 Corinthians 11:1 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 11:4; 11:19; 11:21. **References God:** 2 Corinthians 5:13; 1 Corinthians 1:21

2 Corinthians 11:2 **References God:** Isaiah 54:5. **References Christ:** Colossians 1:28. **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 44:22; John 3:29

2 Corinthians 11:3 **References Christ:** Galatians 1:6; Colossians 2:8. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 3:13; John 8:44; Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 2:4; 1 Timothy 2:14; Hebrews 13:9; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 12:9

2 Corinthians 11:4 **References Jesus:** 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Timothy 2:5

2 Corinthians 11:6

Parallel theme: 2 Corinthians 4:2; 7:2; 10:10; 12:12; 1 Corinthians 1:21; 2:13; Ephesians 3:4.
Creation: 2 Corinthians 5:11; 1 Corinthians 1:17

2 Corinthians 11:7 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 10:1; 12:13; 1 Corinthians 9:6.
References God: 1 Thessalonians 2:9

2 Corinthians 11:8 **Kingdom:** 2 Corinthians 11:9. **Parallel theme:** Philippians 4:18

2 Corinthians 11:9 **Parallel theme:** 1 Thessalonians 2:6; 2:9

2 Corinthians 11:10 **Truth:** Romans 9:1. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 1:23; Acts 18:12; Romans 1:9

2 Corinthians 11:11 **Love:** 2 Corinthians 12:15. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 7:3

2 Corinthians 11:12 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 9:12

2 Corinthians 11:13

Parallel theme: Acts 20:30; Ephesians 4:14; Philippians 3:2; Colossians 2:4; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 2:2; 19:20. **References Christ:** Galatians 1:7; 2:4; Colossians 2:8

2 Corinthians 11:14 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 2:11; 11:3; Galatians 1:8; Revelation 12:9

2 Corinthians 11:15 **Parallel theme:** Philippians 3:19; Jude 1:4; Revelation 9:11.
Righteousness: 2 Corinthians 3:9

2 Corinthians 11:16 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 11:1; 12:6

2 Corinthians 11:17 **References Lord:** 1 Corinthians 7:12. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 9:4

2 Corinthians 11:19 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 4:10; 8:1; 10:15

2 Corinthians 11:20 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 1:24; Galatians 2:4; 4:3; 4:9; 5:1

2 Corinthians 11:21 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 10:10; 11:17

2 Corinthians 11:22 **References Israel:** Romans 9:4; Philippians 3:5. **References Abraham:** 2 Chronicles 20:7; Romans 11:1. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 7:16; 9:1; 9:13; 10:3; Acts 22:3

2 Corinthians 11:23 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 3:6; 6:9; Acts 9:16; 1 Corinthians 3:5; 15:10; Colossians 1:29; 2 Timothy 2:9. **References Christ:** Colossians 1:24; Philemon 1:9

2 Corinthians 11:24 **Parallel theme:** Mark 13:9

2 Corinthians 11:25 **Parallel theme:** Acts 14:19; 16:33; 16:37; Hebrews 11:37

2 Corinthians 11:26 **Parallel theme:** Acts 13:50; 14:5; 17:5; 20:19; 25:3

2 Corinthians 11:27

Parallel theme: 2 Corinthians 6:5; 11:23; Jeremiah 38:9; Acts 14:23; 1 Corinthians 7:5; Philippians 4:12; 1 Thessalonians 2:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:8; Hebrews 11:37

2 Corinthians 11:28 **Parallel theme:** Acts 18:23; 20:2; Romans 11:13; 15:16; 16:4; 1 Corinthians 7:17; Colossians 2:1

2 Corinthians 11:29 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 8:13; 9:22

2 Corinthians 11:30

Parallel theme: Proverbs 27:2; 1 Corinthians 2:3. **Glory:** 2 Corinthians 12:1; Proverbs 25:27

2 Corinthians 11:31

Blessing: 2 Corinthians 1:3; Romans 1:25; 9:5; Ephesians 1:3; 1 Peter 1:3. **References Jesus:** Romans 15:6; Colossians 1:3. **Parallel theme:** John 10:30

2 Corinthians 11:33 **Parallel theme:** Acts 9:25