

20. May - Apr. 26, 70 P.M. WSK1  
(English).

## SATAN'S TRANSFORMATION INTO AN ANGEL

2 Cor. 11:1-33

### INTRODUCTION:

In the light of present events these words were never more true. Desperate plight to modern civilization. The awful grip of the devil upon the world at this time.

No need for me to argue for the existence of Satan. As a person he exists. Isa. 14 - he set himself up against God and said "I will ascend into heaven, and I will exalt my throne above the stars of God" -- Before there was rebellion on earth, there was revolt in heaven.

Satan stepped into the record of human history as the serpent seeking to get the human race in on his purpose.

Satan in the role of a false prophet is the main figure in our chapter today.

I want to discuss chapter 11 in three sections.

First, Satan as a master at deception - V. 1-5.

Second, Satan as a master at counterfeiting - V. 6-15.

Thrid, Satan as no match for compassion - V. 16-33.

### I. Satan A Master At Deception - V. 1-5.

V. 1 - Paul was confronted with false teachers who seeking to destroy the fruit of his labors.

Self-styled - self advertising salesman had tried to create a critical situation in the church at Corinth. Focused their attention on the church.

A little foolishness - bear with me - you have listened to the false deception of Satan, I know you will be disposed to listen to what I say.

V. 2 - Holy jealousy - godly. Reason why they should bear with him.

For I am jealous over you - love you.

Second, as a figure of marriage. One husband. They are not to be joined to

others. Union with Christ. Exposed you - marriage relation from its nature is exclusive. It can be sustained only to one man. So the relation of the church. We can have but one God and one Saviour. Purity is the norm for the bride in a sinful world. When her purity is soiled it gives grave concern. As with the church.

Paul's desire - Corinthians remain faithful to their vows so as to be presented to Christ as glorious church, without spot or wrinkle on that great day.

V. 3 - Satan completely deceived Eve. Beguiled - deceive completely. To corrupt.

Strategy of Satan to challenge every true work of God with false teachers. Some of these proclaim half truths.

I am frightened that some of you may be led away from the simple Gospel, simple devotion to our Lord as Eve was deceived by Satan in the Garden of Eden. Eve created holy, by the subtilty of Satan she fell. Satan in the form of a serpent. Not a myth, nor allegory but true history.

✓ Beguiled - thoroughly deceived - all seduction is by means of deception. Sin in its nature deceit.

Eve disbelieved what was true and believed what was false.

Man's belief is determined largely by his feelings. The heart controls the understanding. The good believe the true, the evil believe the untrue.

This is why men are accountable for their faith, and why the wicked are led captive by Satan into all manner of error. Eve was deceived by exciting unholy feelings in her heart.

The Corinthian Church would in like manner be deceived if they were surrounded by false teachers - ministers of Satan.

Simple - today, everything so complicated, what am I to believe? What is right? What is wrong? Even the word simple is not thought well of.



II. Satan A Master of Counterfeiting - V. 6-15.

V. 6 - Questioned Paul's Ability as a preacher - some of false teachers were silver tongued orators. Grecian culture was at its height.

They used this as an objection to Paul - He did not speak with the wisdom of words. No orator. Did not take part in public life.

He attends to his own affairs.

His speech may be rude, but he was not idiotic in knowledge. Deficient in knowledge - knew his subject - Christ.

V. 7 - Have I sinned in this respect - humbled myself, renouncing a privilege due me.

Entitled to support from the church, but he sustained himself in great measure by the labour of his own hands - tentmaker.

Humbled self that they might be exalted, for their good, spiritual interest.

✓ They were picking at Paul - he's no Apostle, the church at Corinth did not pay him a salary.

Preached free of expense to them.

V. 8 - Robbed - figure of speech - He allows other churches to do more than their share. He got his wages from other churches not from Corinth. Fully entitled to wages from them.

He preached in Corinth gratis and admits he let other churches pay him a salary.

✓ Satan used this charge against Paul - enemies always delight in using money or salary as a weapon against the preacher. Mercenary motive in preaching.

V. 9 - It is plain that brethren from Macedonia supplied every deficiency which Paul had.

He did fall short while at Corinth -- but he was not chargeable - burdensome or numb or demand aid from them. Had every right to expect it from them.

Emphasis is upon contributions from other churches. He received it without

N. T. = Single hearted - crystal clear - like a cloth without a crease in it.

All great men of God have been simple men, plain as little children in their walk with God.

World does not rate this very high.

Christ was simple.

Cry today - need new intellectual approach to the Gospel.

World needs is enlightenment of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation not education gets a man into the Kingdom of God. Simplicity towards Christ not plus ritual, works or church - He alone has the words of eternal life.

V. 4 - False teachers invaded the church preached Jesus but not the Jesus whom Paul preached. Another Gospel, method of Salvation.

Hear much of this today.

Getting mad at communism is not going to take you into heaven! or Hitler, or materialism.

Paul includes the whole class of false teachers.

Getting all souped up on race is not the Gospel.

Preachers another of like kind - thus Jesus centered in strife and neat concord - another spirit. Demonic discord.

Loyalty to Christ is a good thing if you are loyal to the real Christ.

V. 5 - He is refering to the false teachers - the super apostles - extra - super - apostles! (Not Apostles).

They should bear with him in his boasting, I am not behind the chiefest Apostles - He was not behind in gifts or labours he was a messenger of Christ. Entitled to be heard.

Deception led them to claim apostleship.



hesitation. From others he would not receive at all.

V. 10 - Adds solemnly this boasting will not be stopped as to me in all regions, not in Corinth only, but in all parts Greece etc.

Allow no man in Achaia to give to him financial help.

Tell how he preached in Corinth without cost to them.

V. 11 - Why? Because he does not love them - they can be the judge. God knows - soul knowledge - not that he did not love them.

V. 12 - Reason - may cut off occasion for those making accusations.

Always looking for occasions to start something against preachers. Hunting, discredit.

Avoid giving those who desire to impeach my motives -- any pretence for the charge that I preach the Gospel for the sake of gain.

False teachers must have robbed the churches.

Sets forth his pure motives in preaching of the Gospel. Cut the ground out from under them -- no spineless - toleration.

V. 13 - Satan a master at counterfeit.

Not only dégrade Paul - but are unworthy.

Unprincipled, unscrupulous false apostles - falsely claimed to be what they are not.

Fashioning themselves - masquerading as apostles, posing as preachers of Christ.

Deceitful workers - they were not honest, pervert the people.

Transforming themselves real object was not to advance the Kingdom and glory of Christ.

Never commissioned for that work.

They claimed they were more devoted to Christ than Paul.

V. 14 - Transforming is not wonder - angel of light. It is no great thing.

Satan puts on garb of light - deceive saints. Most evil of all beings - bright, happy angel - light symbol of excellence, blessedness.

Aim destroy humanity.

Curse of human history proves this. He has the unbeliever. He attacks Christians. Roaring lion.

Counterfeit - false teachings - Turns on doctrines of the Bible. Turns on the Preacher - Phil. 3:18-19.

Imagination - unholy thinking. Fills mind doubts - left numb, no longer love for God's work, doing it because you have to do it. No sweetness found in God's word.

Self-Interest - No harm in it. It does not pay to follow Jesus too far. After all have a good time.

V. 15 - Bad angel assume roll of good angel.

Bad man assume roll of good angel.

False teachers called ministers of Satan. Their work advances his Kingdom, error and evil. He is their master.

Pretend to be promoters of all that is good.

Professed preachers of righteousness.

The evil will be in line with the works. If they promote evil they will be treated as such.

Tragedy to see men in the church serve the devil.

### III. Satan No Match For Compassion - V. 16-33

V. 16 - No boaster - you allow my enemies to boast of what they do, permit me to say a little. Some have no problem with boasting.

V. 17 - Jesus did not boast. I have it forced upon me. Circumstances pressed him.

V. 18 - Many glory after flesh - bit of foolishness but not like Christ. External.

Opposition of Paul was a group of false teachers - judges.



Give way to selfish feelings, I will do the same.

V. 19 - Indulge in folly of boasting - you are tolerant fools.

Church had allowed.

V. 20 - You bear, tolerate extortion, craftiness, insult, arrogance, climax smiting on the face.

Troubles of the church, the same everywhere. Gal. 1:7, I Pet. 5:3.

Make slaves of you - these men are tyrants. Ensnare - capture.

V. 21 - Satan's group no match when it comes to compassion. They spend the church's money, put on airs or slap you in the face.

Paul not ashamed to say he was weak in this matter. Charged he was weak of body and speech.

You more than tolerate those who trample on you and criticize the weak one who shows great consideration.

I am bold - real courage.

V. 22 - In No point is he behind his opponents.

3 Designations.

- ✓ 1. National - Hebrew - Chosen - racial.
- ✓ 2. Theocratic - Israelite - people of God - religious.
- ✓ 3. Messianic Kingdom - heir of Abraham expectants of Messianic Kingdom. - spiritual.

V. 23 - Are they ministers - are they Christians of Christ?

In birth He stands equal with them.

They were ministers of Satan.

I am a minister - Paul's judgment of himself not the judgment of others.

I may talk like a man beside himself.

Note what his compassion cost.

In labours more abundant - serving him.

In stripes above measure - frequency - above count.

Verb to mean hurl beyond.

In prisons more frequent.

In deaths often - manifold deaths - constant.

V. 24 - Amazing list, trouble because a Christian.

5 times scourged by Jews - own country men.

Deut. 25:3-39 stripes, 40 limit - not transgress.

V. 25 - 3 times scourged by Romans, beaten with rods - Acts 16:22.

Scourge made of 3 thongs, so each blow inflicted three stripes - 13 strokes give 39 lashes.

Once stoned - left for dead. Acts 14:19.

Thrice suffered shipwreck.

Day and night in the deep - length of time. Tossed about by waves clinging to fragment of a wreck. Ref. to one of the times ship wrecked.

V. 26 - His travels and journeyings resulted in light perils.

1. Waters - rivers crossed as well as oceans.
2. Robbers - all travelers were exposed.
3. Jews - own.
4. Pagans.
5. City Folks A. 9:23, 13:50, 14:5, 18:12, 24:27
6. Uninhabited regions - desert - Gentiles
7. Sea - shipwrecks.
8. False brethren. Professed to be in Christ.

V. 27 - The list of trials, sufferings continue.

9. Weariness and painfulness - toil, exhaustion.

10. Watchings - sleepless nights - pressing work kept him up late - concern of his work.

11. Hunger and thirst - good meal not always available.



12. Fastings - voluntary abstinence from food and seasons of prayer.

Not to be a hero.

13. Cold and nakedness - completes the picture - bodily worn by exposure,  
lack of warm coat.

V. 28 - Anxiety for all the churches.

Paul listed a peck of troubles.

His list should shame us today who are disposed to find fault with out lot.

Things came from all directions - daily concerns and care of all the churches.

Preacher has great compassion for his work plus enduring the outward troubles.

How does this strike you?

Do you congratulate yourself that you have escaped it?

One week of such living and most Christians would be done.

Paul went through a lifetime of infirmities.

Does this make you feel ashamed? Why have I escaped this?

Some Christians quit at first conflict or some insignificant incident -  
count me out - through with the church, the preacher.

What was it that made Paul live as he did?

He paid a price - felt the pressure - no release - burden -

If We Lived as though we really cared and longed to rescue one soul from  
Hell, the buffeting would begin at once.

You don't really care and why don't you - why is it I have no compassion.  
Ask God to show you what it means for a soul to go to a Christless eternity, into  
Hell!

V. 29 - Sympathized with his fellow Christians in the faith.

One member of another.

Infirmities, prejudices.

False teachers led astray filled him with grief and indignation - sympathy.

When a Brother stumbles, Paul is set on fire with grief.

V. 30 - Like the list above.

False teachers boasted.

Paul boasted of his weakness, infirmities.

V. 31 - List seems foolish, Paul solemn oath - true.

V. 32 - Writing he included the record of Damascus a specific experience and this completes the list.

They try to seize Paul.

V. 33 - Escapes in a basket over the wall- through a window.

So many do not have enough religion to string their consciences, not enough to forsake their sin, or bind their wills to him.

First world war- London - regiment soldiers to go to France - those days war was slaughter.

Entertained at concert, London Theater, group wished them well - ended. Chaptain in charge, thanked the people for their kindness and then with broken voice said, ladies and gentlemen, is there anyone here who can tell us how to die?

There was a moment of embarrassed silence until one lady and artist in the concert, a Christian came forward, stood and sang, "Oh, rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him". There were few dry eyes that night.

Have you lost your way in theological argument that you can no longer tell people how to die? Paul suffered to tell men.