

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for June 6, 2010

“Paul’s Driving Motivations”
2 Corinthians 5:11-13

What drove Paul to live a revolutionary lifestyle?

Paul’s first driving motivation was the fear of the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:11-13).

When Paul referred to “the fear of the Lord” he was talking about his reverential awe of Christ, knowing that Christ is the judge and His judgments matter (Galatians 6:7-8).

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 5:11, was seeking to persuade the Corinthians as to the fact of his personal integrity.

Paul, in Corinthians 5:11, was in effect putting before the Corinthians a choice. They could either listen to the testimony of their consciences in respect to his integrity or they could listen to the lies of his critics.

His hope in issuing the challenge was that as the Corinthians looked to their consciences, that the moral faculties of their consciences would exonerate him and declare him to be a man of integrity.

Paul, anticipating that his critics would charge him with boasting based on what he said in 2 Corinthians 5:11, provided the Corinthians some direction in terms of how they should answer his critics in respect to this charge.

Paul wanted the Corinthians to be at a place in their lives where they could proudly declare to his critics that they believed Paul’s heart to be pure and that his ministry was solely motivated by his love for God and for them.

May God give us the grace to fear Him so that we will be highly motivated to live our lives in a manner pleasing to Him.