

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for November 13, 2011**

**Paul's Defense of His Foolish Boasting**  
**2 Corinthians 11:1-6**

How did Paul defend his willingness to engage in what he considered to be foolish boasting in 2 Corinthians 10:2-15?

Paul defended his willingness to engage in what he considered to be foolish boasting by highlighting his godly jealousy for the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 11:2-6).

The root idea of the word “jealous” both in the Greek (ZELOS) and in the Hebrew (QINAH) is “heat” and is used to describe someone who is passionate.

Typically a jealous person is passionate about holding on to what he believes is his.

If we are holding on to people or things as if we are the owner of these things, then we are guilty of ungodly jealousy.

Godly jealousy is when we passionately hold on to professing believers, not because we believe they are ours, but rather because we believe they are the Lord's.

Paul believed that through his preaching of the gospel, the Corinthians had become betrothed to Christ and would one day be presented to Christ as His bride (cf. 4:14; Ephesians 5:27).

When Paul talked about his fear of the Corinthians being led astray from the simplicity and devotion of Christ, he was talking about them being led away from the simple gospel message (2 Corinthians 11:3).

Paul feared that through satanic deception the Corinthians would fall to three delusions: “another Jesus, “a different spirit” and “a different gospel” (2 Corinthians 11:4).

The Corinthians should take Paul's fears to heart because as Christ's true apostle he had far greater knowledge than his opponents who he sarcastically referred to as “the most eminent apostles” (2 Corinthians 11:5-6).

May we be filled with godly jealousy when we believe a brother or sister in Christ is in the process of being led astray from the gospel message.