

Inspire

A word of hope, support, and encouragement

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For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. 2 CORINTHIANS 11:2-3, NASB

The Security of Simplicity AND PURITY TO CHRIST

In these verses, the apostle Paul gives us excellent divine insight into “making disciples” (Matthew 28:19) and recognizing our goal, charge, methodology, and results.

Our goal is to glorify God by preaching and teaching the Word of God, making “pure virgin disciples” of Christ (Philippians 2:13).

We live in a time of apostasy, so being steadfast in proclaiming truth is essential. Jesus underscores how we become true disciples: continue in His Word (John 8:31-32).

The charge as shepherds and sheep is not to fear the enemy but to discern how he operates.

The Gospel is not about the complexity of God but the supernatural simplicity of God’s expectation. The “singleness and sincerity” of thought made up solely of Godly truth must sustain the mental honesty and discipline needed to stay in step with God.

Paul turns our attention to the Garden of Eden to see Satan’s most effective methodology, craftiness and deception, as he offers another “voice.” Please note that the devil cannot force you to listen or accept; he only makes “doubt” available.

The results will become evident once Satan penetrates our minds with alternative thoughts. We will no longer supplant them with the power of God’s Word (Matthew

6:24), and the “rebellion” process begins! Once we accept temptation in our thinking, it leads to the growth of disobedience against God (James 1:14-16).

The Apostle Paul expresses his concern that “...our minds will be led astray.” In this context, the word “mind” refers to the content and substance of our thoughts (Philippians 4:8), rather than just our capacity to think. Our minds become targets for fiery darts of impure thoughts, such as envy, greed, or lust, and may divert us from obedience and our complete devotion to God.

Brothers and sisters, I pray we will willingly let the Holy Spirit examine our hearts and see if we have strayed from the course of “simplicity and purity” before God. Our total commitment to God is not measured by our words alone but by intentional deeds of obedience to Him! ■

Love you all!



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