



Daily Reflections

June 22, 2017

Scripture

Brothers and sisters:

If only you would put up with a little foolishness from me!

Please put up with me.

For I am jealous of you with the jealousy of God,

since I betrothed you to one husband

to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning,

your thoughts may be corrupted

from a sincere and pure commitment to Christ.

For if someone comes and preaches another Jesus than the one we preached,

or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received

or a different gospel from the one you accepted,

you put up with it well enough.

For I think that I am not in any way inferior to these "superapostles."

Even if I am untrained in speaking, I am not so in knowledge;

in every way we have made this plain to you in all things.

Did I make a mistake when I humbled myself so that you might be exalted,

because I preached the Gospel of God to you without charge?

I plundered other churches by accepting from them

in order to minister to you.

And when I was with you and in need, I did not burden anyone,

for the brothers who came from Macedonia

supplied my needs.

So I refrained and will refrain from burdening you in any way.

By the truth of Christ in me,
this boast of mine shall not be silenced
in the regions of Achaia.
And why? Because I do not love you?
God knows I do!

Our Scripture Reflection

The Corinthian Church had been a divided community due largely to an abundance of well educated but arrogant members. Some would hop from listening to one charismatic preacher then to another, whomever was more pleasing to the ears. This broke Paul's heart and angered him as well. Why? Because Christ is one, and therefore, Paul believed that the believers must be united as one. There was no room for over-inflated egos!

Food for your Journey

If you are suffering without succeeding, then someone will succeed after you; if you are succeeding without suffering, then someone suffered before you.

A century ago, Jessie Penn-Lewis observed how God intends to refine believers, conforming them to the moral likeness of Christ: "There are as many grades of suffering among souls as grades of living among men. Suffering may be spiritual, mental or physical, or all of these blended into different forms and degrees. When a soul abandons itself entirely to God, with a perfect intention to be conformed to Jesus, the Holy Spirit in a particular way establishes a disciplinary government over it, and takes charge of every form of suffering such a one has, whether outward or inward, and so saturates every incident, trial and grief with the providence and purposes of God as to make it work for good."

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Make me humble and grateful for Your Presence in my life. May I love all people the way that You love them. Amen.