

Beware of Preachers That Complement You

Galatians 4:17-20

Intro:

- A. The Galatians had received Paul with love.
 - 1. **Vs. 14a** They had received him as an angel.
 - 2. **Vs. 14b** They had received as they would Jesus.
 - 3. **Vs. 15** They would have given him their eyes.
 - 4. **Vs. 14** They did not despise and reject him.

- B. This relationship had cooled.
 - 1. **Vs. 15** They no longer had a "Blessedness".
 - 2. **Vs. 12** They believed Paul was being vindictive.
 - 3. **Vs. 16** They viewed him as an enemy.

- C. What had caused this change?
 - 1. Paul had not Changed.
 - 2. God had not Changed.
 - 3. The truth had not Changed.
 - 4. They had been led astray by preachers. **5:10**
"Troubleth" = "to stir up", "to agitate". This has to do with the emotions.

- D. These people had been Seduced.
 - 1. The same manner in which a woman is seduced and led astray by a man.
 - 2. **I John 2:26**
 - 3. These are more than wolves in sheep's clothing, they are people of the same pasture, it is sheep seducing sheep.

- I. The Plan And The Purpose Of The Seducers.
 - A. **Vs. 17** "**They zealously affect you, but not well;**"
 - 1. "Zealously affect" = ζηλω = "to be zealous", "to take interest in", "they pay court to you", "to woo".
 - 2. "Well" = καλως = "in an honorable way".
 - 3. "Certain people are seeking your favor, but with no honorable object."
 - 4. "These men pay you much attention by not to lead you into something good."
 - 5. Many ministers go to great lengths to get people to follow them. They want to count them. To have them in their spiritual harem.

 - B. "**...yea, they would exclude you...**"
 - 1. "Exclude" = εκκλειω = "to shut out".
 - 2. "they want to isolate you..."

3. "they would shut you out from others..."
4. This attitude is the seed of a cult.

C. "...that ye might affect them."

1. "Affect" = ζηλω = "to desire zealously".
2. "...so that you will have a zeal for them."
3. "...so that you will have to seek their favor."

II. To Be Zealous In A Good Thing Is Good.

A. Vs. 18 "But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing..."

1. "Zealously affected" = ζηλω = "to desire zealously".
2. "Now it is a fine thing to have special attention paid you..." Wms
3. "It is a fine thing when people are nice to you with good motives and sincere hearts.
4. Zeal and truth are great partners.
5. Romans 10:2 "...they have (Israel) a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge."
6. When people have little truth they tend to compensate for their ignorance by being zealous.

B. "...and not only when I am present with you."

1. when Paul was present they were zealous toward him. Seeking him to teach them and they working zealously to please him.
2. After Paul's departure they cooled toward him and were won to error by zealous seducers.

III. Paul Loved Them As His Little Children.

A. Vs. 19 "My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you."

1. "Children" = τεκνια = "young or small children".
2. "Travail" = ωδινω = "the pain of childbirth".
3. "Formed" = μορφωθη = "shaped", "moulded".
4. "Again" = παλιν = "Second time, again".
5. "My dear children, - you for whom I am again enduring a mother's pains, till a likeness of Christ shall have been formed in you" - TCNT
6. A mother's pain for her children does not end with its birth. To see a child go wrong and then attempt to reclaim them is painful.

B. Vs. 20 "I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice..."

1. "Desire" = θελω = "will, wish, to will".

2. "Present" = παρειμι = "to be near by".
3. "Change" = μεταθεσις = "transposition".
4. "Voice" = φωνη = "a voice, a cry".
5. I wish to be near you so that I could say with stricter sounds and clearer cries.

C. **"...for I stand in doubt of you."**

1. "Stand in doubt" = απορομαι = "to not know what to do", "to be without resource".
2. "...for I am at my wits end about you! - Mof

