

## A True Apostle of Christ Defends His Ministry (Part 1)

### 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

#### Context

- **11:1-4** – Paul shares his greatest fear for the Corinthians.
- **11:5-6** – Paul contrasts his knowledge with the popular public speaking abilities of the “super apostles.”
- **11:7-12** – Paul “boasts” of not requiring or seeking personal financial aid from the Corinthians.
- **11:8-15** – Paul exposes both the satanic connection and the future judgment of these false teachers (or “super apostles”).

- I. Paul “boasts” of his “weakness” in not mistreating the Corinthians.  
([11:16-21](#))
  
- II. Paul “boasts” of his ministry as a true apostle and missionary of Christ.  
([11:22-33](#))
  - A. Paul reviews his earthly, national pedigree. ([vs. 22](#))
  
  - B. Paul reviews his endurance through many labors, persecutions, dangers, and sufferings. ([vs. 23-27](#))
  
  - C. Paul reviews his ongoing burden and concern for the churches  
([vs. 28-29](#))
  
  - D. Paul reviews his perceived and actual weaknesses. ([vs. 30-33](#))

**BIG IDEA:** While faithful Christians will face affliction and slander, a life of faithfulness to Christ is never lived in vain.

*Previous and Upcoming Sections:*

- 11:1-15** A True Apostle of Christ's Concern (Part 1)
- 11:16-33** A True Apostle of Christ Defends His Ministry (Part 1)
- 12:1-10** A True Apostle of Christ Defends His Ministry (Part 2)
- 12:11-21** A True Apostle of Christ's Concern (Part 2)
- 13:1-10** A True Apostle of Christ's Warning
- 13:11-14** Final Exhortations, Greetings, and Benediction

**Observations/Questions:**