

1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro: “Apostle” from Taeyoung Kim (Hyupsung Univ.)

apostolos: noun. from *apostellō* which means to send away or to send off.

1) In Greek world, marine term, indicating navy or those who carry goods in and out of ship.

later developed to indicate a ship, naval expedition,

or a messenger with a political or religious mission.

When indicating a religious messenger, it implies the messenger to be **holy or divine**.

2) In Jewish world, it was not used but once by Josephus,

when he mentioned a Jewish delegation to Rome.

1 Kings 14:6 in Septuagint translated *shalach* (to send) to *apostolos*.

in Hebrews society, *shalach* **identified the sent with the sending**.

3) In the New Testament, *apostolos* was used 79 times: once in Matthew, Mark, and John,

but 6 times in Luke, 28 times in Acts, and 34 times in Paul’s letters.

a) 12 disciples appointed by Jesus (Luke 6:12-13),

b) servants appointed by Jesus (Rom. 1:1, 16:7, 1 Cor. 15:9-10, Gal. 1:1),

c) missionaries dispatched by the church (2 Cor. 8:23, Phil. 2:25)

d) Jesus Himself (Heb. 3:1)

e) *apostolos* was like prophets in the Old Testament (Eph. 2:20, 3:5)

How shall we understand the apostles in the early Christianity?

3. Structure of Ch. 11

v. 1-4 the apostle’s foolishness

v. 5-11 the apostle’s boasting

v. 12-15 the false apostles’ boasting

v. 16-21 the foolish apostle’s boasting

v. 22-23 comparison between the foolish apostle and the false apostles

v. 24-33 the apostle’s boasting of his foolish sufferings.

4. Read Ch. 11

5. Questions

- a. Can we expect Paul's foolishness in this chapter?
- b. What is godly jealousy (*zēloō* which means zeal or envy) in verse 2? Read 2 Kings 19:31, Isaiah 9:7
- c. As mentioned in verse 3, believers should have sincere and pure devotion to the Christ. Share some stories of any sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
- d. Verse 5 implies that Paul was considered to be inferior to "super-apostles." Can you find out how Paul was compared with the "super-apostles"? (10:5, 10, 11:6-7)
- e. Who are the super apostles?
- f. How shall we understand verses 8-9? (Acts 18:3 and Phil. 4:15-16)
- g. How shall we understand "I will keep on doing what I am doing" in verse 12?
- h. How can we distinguish a false apostle (v. 13)?
- i. After 31, why do you think Paul added verses 32-33?
- j. What is Paul's mission as the apostle in this chapter?

6. Closing Prayer