“Until Christ is Formed in You”

Intro: As we study this morning we find that ______ was much more than a heartless intellect, and much more than a harsh theologian, but a loving and __________ ________ who cared deeply for those under his care, who eagerly sought not to rebuke at a distance but to be with them, as a father with his children.

A. In this outpouring of love Paul, as a heart-broken father, passionately appealed to the Galatians by ____________ them of the love they once had for him; by wondering aloud why they had turned against him; by warning them of the false teachers’ insincere motives; and by ____________ them in his love for them, expressing his true desire to care for them and of his __________ desire to be with them.

I. The Apostle Paul __________ the Galatians! This is not the impassioned plea of one in need but of one striving ___ ___________ to the Galatians’ highest need.

A. Paul begged his Galatian brothers saying, “____________ _ _ am, for I also have become as you are.”

1. Here Paul plead with the Galatians to become as he represented himself in 2:19-20 saying, “For through the Law I died to the Law, that ___ might __________ to God. 20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live ___ ___________ in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.”

II. In a godly effort to restore the Galatians to true Christian fellowship Paul ____________ them ___ the _______ they once had for him.

A. It was _______ his own bodily _____________ that Paul preached the gospel to them the first time.

B. Whatever the _____________ was it was bodily and of a repulsive nature and a very _______ ___________ for the Galatians.

C. While Paul’s illness was ghastly and a trial for the Galatians still they did _______ ___________ or spit out at him as some if he were detestable, untouchable, and sub-human, _______ quite remarkably they ___________ Paul “as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus Himself.”

III. In light of the way the Galatians had first ___________ him, with such love, care and esteem, and that with a full acceptance of the ____________, Paul wanted to know what happened. ____________ had their first love gone? Where was their ________ for him as one sent by Christ?

A. Paul asked, verse 16, “Have I therefore become your _________ ___ telling you the _____________?”
B. No doubt, for those among the Galatians who were true believers Paul’s ____________ cut them to the heart, serving to bring them to their ____________.

IV. Paul began to manifest his love for them by ____________ them of the insincere love (____________) of the false teachers.

A. The false teachers aggressively sought to ______ the Galatians over to themselves, and not commendably so. Their concern was not for the Galatians’ souls but that they gain personal converts and ________________.

V. Paul then began to ____________ his ____________ love for the Galatian believers by expressing his great love for them even though they had considered him an enemy, even though he was far away.

A. Such a “zealous seeking” for the other in a commendable manner is good _____ _____ _______, not only when the other is present. … True love is not limited to proximity but it remains even when its object is absent! _______ _________ _________!!!

B. Paul eagerly sought (loved) the Galatians in a commendable manner by considering them _______ __________ even though they viewed him as an enemy.

C. Paul eagerly sought (loved) the Galatians by _______________ _________ as a mother in travail even though they had rejected him.

D. Paul eagerly loved the Galatians by determining to ____________ over them again until ___________ was formed ___ _______ even though he was far away.

E. As ___________ ambassador Paul manifested his ______ toward the Galatians by expressing his desire to be present ___________ _________.

Closing: In February of 1997 when Heritage Christian Fellowship was first formed we chose for our motto the Scripture found in Colossians 1:28 which says, “And we _______________ ________, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.” And it is for this purpose that also we labor, striving according to His power that ____________ would be formed ___ ____

Let us be a people then who are ______________ in the true gospel of Jesus Christ, eagerly seeking the other, at all times, in all places, whether absent or in person. Dear church, as a divine manifestation of Christ being formed in us, let us love one another even as He has loved us. May ____________ be formed ___ ________, and to this end may we labor until He comes again!

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