

Not Fickle but Faithful

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I. Introduction.

- A. People always doubt motives.
- B. Paul had to defend his own motives as well.
- C. Text: II Corinthians 1.

II. Paul's conscience.

- A. Paul had no hidden actions. Everything he did was above board—he was sincere and exposed to the light.
- B. Paul had no hidden motives.
- C. Paul had no hidden meanings.
- D. Paul had no hidden hopes.

III. Paul's confidence.

- A. False teachers accused Paul of being fickle for changing his mind. (I Corinthians 16:5-8, II Corinthians 1)
- B. Paul purposely changed his plans so that he would give the Corinthians a chance to repent and so that he would not have to be sorrowful among them.
- C. Paul said that one should never accuse him of saying yes and no in Christ. Whatever promise there is in Christ is answered with a firm yes.

IV. Paul's confirmation.

- A. Christ establishes us.
- B. Christ anointed us.
- C. Christ sealed us.
- D. Christ gives us the Spirit.

V. Application.

- A. What the world thinks of Jesus Christ is a result of what we are.
- B. The best way to defend one against false accusations is to have right motives.

1. One must be devoted to Jesus Christ and make Him supreme.

2. One must live to serve others.

C. All the promises in Jesus Christ are yes to those who say, "So be it!"

Application questions:

1. Why is it important to live transparently on all levels of life?

2. What are some guards a person can put in place to remain transparent?

3. Why is it important to know from where the source of our confirmation comes?
