

Paul As A Preacher

Introduction

- 1. Paul is a great example for us. He was one of the world's greatest preachers!**

1 Corinthians 9:16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, **woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!**

- A. Compulsion meaning necessity; compelling force.**

- 2. He was in "far more labors."**

2 Corinthians 11:23 Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.

Paul's Selection as a Preacher

- 1. He was a "chosen vessel."**

- A. Ananias was told to go to Saul to restore his sight.**

Acts 9:15-16 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For **I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.**"

- 2. He was "called of God."**

Romans 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God

3. He was “sent to preach.”

Acts 26:16-18

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

His Preparation

1. Born in Tarsus - an important city.

Acts 21:39 But Paul said, “I am a Jew from Tarsus, in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city; and I implore you, permit me to speak to the people.”

- A. Capital of Cilicia.
- B. Situated in a wide and fertile plain on the banks of the Cyanus river.
- C. It was renowned as a place of education during the time.
- D. It was a place of much commerce and it was famous as a trading center.

2. He was taught by Gamaliel.

- A. Gamaliel was a pharisee and a celebrated doctor of the law.

Acts 22:3 “I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today.

3. He received revelation.

Galatians 1:11-12 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, **but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

Ephesians 3:3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already)

His Characteristics

1. Conscientious.

Acts 23:1 Then Paul, looking earnestly at the council, said, "Men and brethren, I have lived in **all good conscience** before God until this day."

Paul before Felix:

Acts 24:16 This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.

2. Zealous.

A. Webster defines zealous as: "fervent; or enthusiastic."

2 Timothy 4:6-8 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, **I have kept the faith.** Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

1) **Are we also zealous in our work for the Lord?**

2. **Are we zealous in our work for the Lord?**

3. **Bold.**

A. **Webster: “Daring; fearless; striking.”**

Acts 9:26-27 And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and **how he had preached boldly** at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

Ephesians 6:19-20 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, **that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel**, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

4. **Unselfish.**

Philippians 3:8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have **suffered the loss of all things**, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

5. **Patient.**

2 Corinthians 6:4 But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,

2 Corinthians 12:12 Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.

Hebrews 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

His Attitude

1. Toward Sin.

A. It destroys the victim.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

B. The Christian is freed from sin.

Romans 6:17-18 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been **set free from sin**, you became slaves of righteousness.

C. Christians are dead to sin and alive in Christ!

Romans 6:1-2, 11

D. Christians are not to yield to sin.

Romans 6:16

2. Toward the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A. He was not ashamed of the Christ's gospel.

Romans 1:16 For **I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

2 Timothy 1:8 Therefore **do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord**, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,

1) We must live it and talk about it – planting the seed!

B. He knew God's power to save.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

John 8:32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

C. He knew it MUST be obeyed.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

Hebrews 5:9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

3. Toward preaching.**A. He knew the word was to be preached.**

2 Timothy 4:1-4

B. He knew to preach the whole counsel of God.

Acts 20:26-27 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

C. He preached in different places.**1) In Synagogues.**

Acts 13:14-16

2) In the market place.

Acts 17:17

3) By the river side.

Acts 16:13

- 4) **In prison.**
Acts 24:24-25
 - a. **In prison he preached before Agrippa -Acts 26.**
- 5) **Publicly, and from house to house.**
Acts 20:20

How Paul Was Received

1. **Favorably.**
Galatians 4:13-15
2. **Unfavorably.**

Acts 17:5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

Acts 21:30-31 And all the city was disturbed; and the people ran together, **seized Paul, and dragged him out of the temple;** and immediately the doors were shut. Now as they were seeking to kill him, news came to the commander of the garrison that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.

Conclusion

1. **We need to be like Paul in Character and Attitude.**
1 Corinthians 11:1 **Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.**
2. **The gospel of Christ should mean as much to us today as it did to Paul in his day. Let us never let the passage of time make our lights grow dimmer!**

