

Paul's Manner of Living & Teaching: An Example to Imitate

Acts 20:17-38

- Consider as an example the apostle Paul's
 - Manner of life
 - His commitment
 - His teaching

➤ See Paul's Manner of Life

- Humility – v.19
 - Romans 12:16
 - Philippians 2:3
 - 1 Timothy 1:15
 - 1 Corinthians 15:9
 - 2 Timothy 2:24-26
 - Galatians 6:1
 - Ephesians 6:19
 - 2 Timothy 1:7

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- Pure in motive – v.33
 - Philippians 1:15-16
 - Philippians 2:3
 - Colossians 3:5

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- Self-sacrificing purpose – v.19, 31
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

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- Supporting the weak – v.34-35
 - Ephesians 4:28

➤ Paul's Manner of Life

- Humility
- Pure in Motive
- Self-sacrificing purpose
- Supporting the weak

➤ See Paul's commitment

- To do what?
 - Finish his race
 - “that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God” (v.24)
 - A commission from Jesus: Acts 26:16-18
 - An apostle and a minister to the Gentiles
 - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 - 2 Timothy 4:7
 - 1 Corinthians 9:16
 - Duty compels!

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- Some keys to maintaining his commitment:

1) Determined

- “And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem” (v.22)
- In spite of knowledge of coming trouble (v.22-23)
 - Romans 15:30-32
 - Matthew 16:24-25

➤ See Paul's commitment

- Some keys to maintaining his commitment:

- 2) Immovable

- “None of these things move me” (v.24)
 - Refused to be moved
 - John 15:18-21
 - Matthew 10:22
 - Hebrews 13:6
 - 1 Peter 4:12; 5:10
 - 1 Thessalonians 3:3
 - Colossians 1:23
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58

➤ See Paul's commitment

- Some keys to maintaining his commitment:

3) Treasure in the right place

- “Nor do I count my life dear to myself” (v.24)
- Valued the right thing
- Revelation 12:11
- Ephesians 5:29
- Philippians 1:20-21
- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

➤ See Paul's commitment

- To finish his race
 - Determined
 - Immovable
 - Treasure in the right place

➤ See Paul's teaching

• The faith in Christ

- “Testifying...repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (v.21)
- Acts 19:8; 18-20; 26:19-20
- Faith: John 8:24; Acts 4:12
 - 1 Peter 4:17
- Repentance: Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

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• The whole counsel of God

- Innocent of the blood of all men (v.26)
- How?
 - “For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God” (v.27)
 - Let us see the necessary inference
 - “I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you...” (vs. 20)
 - Did not shrink from

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• The whole counsel of God

- Acts 18:6
- (physical need – Proverbs 3:27-28; 1 John 3:17)
- But, in this case, hold back spiritual truth that is needed?
 - No way.
 - Mark 10:21
- Ezekiel 3:16-21
- Jeremiah 6:13-14
- Isaiah 30:8-11
- 2 Timothy 4:1-5
- Colossians 1:28

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- Warning - beware

- Be on guard for 3 things

- Trouble coming in from the outside

- Trouble coming in from the inside

- Defections

- Colossians 2:8

- 2 Timothy 2:17-18

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- Watch & remember loving warnings

- “Watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears” (v.31)
- 2 Peter 1:12
- 1 Peter 5:8

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- Be devoted to the word of God
 - “And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified” (v.32)
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-2
 - The gospel:
 - By which you are saved
 - If you hold fast that word
 - Contains facts, commands, warnings, promises
- 2 Peter 3:17-18
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17

➤ See Paul's teaching

- The faith in Christ
- The whole counsel
- Warnings
 - Watch & remember
 - Be strengthened in the faith

- See the example of Paul's...
 - Manner of life
 - Commitment
 - Teaching

A worthy example to follow