

Introduction- TODAY WE SEE THE BIBLE PERVERTED TO FURNISH STIMULUS FOR LAWLESS CIVIL RIOTS

1. I want you to study one of the most traumatic experiences of Paul regarding Civil rights
2. You will find that both Liberal Christianity and Fundamental Christianity today are off track
3. The Liberals in their desire for Social right has been duped into being lawbreakers
The Fundamentalists in their desire for Social acceptance are afraid to take a stand.

I.- THE PROBLEM PAUL FOUND* A SOUL HELD IN BONDAGE BY MEN AND BY SATAN - Acts 16:14-18a

A. GOD CALLED PAUL TO EUROPE TO WIN SOULS * NOT TO CORRECT THE SOCIAL INJUSTICES OF EUROPE!

1. God called Paul in a vision - come and help us- the help Paul had was the Lord! & His Salvation
2. He found a prayer meeting, where people were seeking the Lord- and won Lydia to Christ
3. The Lord opened her heart, she was baptized, and the church was founded in her house

B. PAUL MET A PITIFUL SITUATION THAT WAS UNJUST* SPIRITUALLY, PHYSICALLY, AND SOCIALLY!

1. A girl- possessed with a spirit, possessed by masters, soothsaying for their gain
2. This girl followed Paul, the Spirit in her recognizing them, crying the truth about them
3. This could have been a boon to Paul's preaching- a famous Oracle crying truth about them.

C. PAUL WAS GRIEVED BECAUSE OF WHAT HE SAW AND HEARD -Refused to allow Gospel to be helped by

1. The end does not justify the means, even a truthful deamon was not of God! satan
2. Paul was grieved- that a girl should be miss used by deamon powers-
3. He did not take action against slavery, the masters profit, the soothsaying, but DeamonPossessed
When a person is under the control of the devil, it is a heartbreak for God & his servants.

II.- THE BATTLE TO DELIVER THE OPPRESSED SOUL FROM SATAN'S POWER

This is so unlike the Mob action, Psychological warfare, propaganda conflict of today.

A. PAUL'S ACTION WAS PERSONAL ACTION - he did something about the problem himself

1. Today's Social Gospel would stir up a mob, thrust some innocent do-gooders out front-blood.
2. Today's fundamentalists would probably say- let the government do it, I'm too busy preaching.
3. Paul himself turned- directly to the deamon and cast him out in the name of Jesus.

B. PAUL'S ACTION WAS A POSITIVE ACTION* he did something good, instead of destructive talk

1. Today's liberal would try to pass a law, the Fundamental would gossip about how awful
2. Some might attack the owners, the customers, or even the girl for being so wicked.
3. Paul delivered the girl of her affliction, left her in her right mind and walked on

B. PAUL'S ACTION WAS A PROMPT ONE - he did something about it right then, did not wait

1. The liberal would have to wait until the climate of public opinion would protect him.
2. The Fundamentalist would have to pray about it -until the girl died of old age-, or pray for
3. Paul's time for action was prompt- right then when he was //her soul, God will save in His
own time, or call to the owners
grieved about the girl's problem-

III.- THE RESULTS OF PAUL'S BATTLE FOR THE GIRL'S LIVE AND DELIVERANCE

A. THE GIRL WAS GIVEN HER RIGHT MIND, AND ALLOWED TO CONTROL HER LIFE AGAIN.

1. In a way, I am glad that it leaves her Salvation out- Paul did not want a "rice Christian"
2. I would like to think that anyone in their right mind would receive Christ-
3. God gave her free will, and Paul as a good samaritan did not violate that.

B. THE OWNERS LOST THEIR ILLICIT PROFIT AND WERE ANGRY

1. There is money in sin, and when the power of God delivers men, it stops wicked gain.
2. These men lied about Paul, drag them to the rulers and demanded punishment
3. The rulers hastily punished Paul and threw them in Jail, (maybe leaders had profit too)

C. PAUL ACCEPTED HIS STRIPES, COUNTED THEM GAIN FOR CHRIST, AND LED THE SALVATION OF JAILOR

1. You serve the Lord, you will get some stripes- how you accept them will tell long.
2. In jail he sang, and when the Jailor was about to kill himself he rescued him-
3. The Jailor received Christ, and Paul moved on-

Concl. WE WILL FACE SOME TREMENDOUS CIVIL STRIFE AND DISTURBANCES IN COMING MONTHS

1. ARE YOU CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE LORD FOR HIM TO GUIDE YOU RIGHT?
2. The Salvation of Souls is first,
3. Social work - good samaritan do it as Paul did-