

Date 8-1-65
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TITLE GAMALIEL: A FAITHFUL OLD TEACHER

Scripture

Acts 5:34-39

Introduction- HERE IS THE STORY OF A MAN, WHOSE GREATNESS OUTLIVED HIM THROUGH HIS DISCIPLES

1. Very little is said about Gamaliel - mentioned twice in the New Testament-
2. Yet the influence of this man on Christianity and Judaism has been tremendous and great.
3. We might debate whether or not he was saved- but we cannot debate that he was a very wise man; and his influence was for good- and his advise was right.

I.- THE PERSON OF GAMALIEL

A. HIS NAME #34a

1. Gamaliel means "Reward of God" - God gave him as a reward for the faithfulness of his parents
2. He was the Grandson of Hillel, the Son of Simon, a great heritage of Pharisees
3. He stood up in the Council- This was a man whose name carried weight in the counsels of men.

B. HIS RENOWN* A MAN OF GREAT REPUTATION 34b

1. He was a Doctor of the Law- One of 7 in history called "Rabban" - "The Beauty of the Law"
2. He had great reputation among all people - He rose above the prejudices of his party.
3. When he died- men said that the the love and reverence for the law, and purity had died too.

C. HIS HISTORY

1. He was a dispassionate Judge - full of tact- worldly wisdom and understanding of spiritual law
2. It is said that he had a school of 1000 scholars- $\frac{1}{2}$ -the Law, and $\frac{1}{2}$ studying Greek Culture
3. Clementine Redognitions say that he was a secret disciple- Baptized of Paul & Peter? ?
4. He died before Destruction of Jerusalem- 70 AD- Son-Gamaliel- 80-118 AD another teacher

II.-THE ADVISE OF GAMALIEL

He had the disciples put forth so they could consider the matter fairly!

A. GAMALIEL RECOMMENDED CAUTION AND TOLERANCE 35 & 38

1. **CAUTION-** Take heed what ye intend to do- -in the heat of emotion wrong actions are oftendone
2. **TOLARANCE-** Let them along- If we are busy running our own business we dont have time for thier
- 3.

B. HIS ARGUMENT AND REASON FOR HIS COUNSEL

1. **Caution-** Persecoution makes martyrs- You can often cause a bigger row by trying to get to/ the bottom of a small matter!
2. **Tolerance-** If it be of God- 39, if of man 38b
3. He knew that improper treatment would make for an open sore - no matter how small at first

B. HIS MOTIVE FOR HIS ARGUMENT

1. Some say it was because he was a secret believer?- as Nicodemus, and Joseph of Armithea
2. Some say that his study of the truth gave him a latent sympathy for the Disciples -automatic
3. Some say that just plain common sence prevailed in his wisdom- don't fan a flame!

III.- THE RESULTS OF THE ADVISE AND LIFE OF GAMALIEL

A. THE RESEULTS RIGHT THEN! 40-

1. The council agreed with him- and did not put the disciples to death- like they wanted-33
2. They beat them- usual practice for any found in trouble- Matt 10:17- scourge in Synagogues
3. They commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus- to be expected from the council.

B. GAMALIEL'S TEACHING PRODUCED OTHER RESULTS

1. **Onkelos the Targumut-** Translated Jewish OT to Greek- (Schefield Reference of the Jews)
2. **Saul of Tarsus-** Acts 22;3 At what great cost we know not- but Paul's wisdom was schooled
3. We need to have the humility to learn great truth from the great teachers-saved or not!

C. GAMALIEL'S MINISTRY TO US TODAY -

1. We need to respect great teachers today- saved orunsaved- honorable -wise -pure
 2. We need to produce teachers today - schooled properly to do a great job.-high calling
 3. We need men with courage to speak the truth in our country's councils- popular or not!
- We need some educated-common sense-wisdom- will you get it, and use it?

Concl. GOD HAD HIS CHAMPION IN THE COURTS OF ISRAEL THAT DAY* WHO WILL BE HES CHAMPION TOMORROW?

1. Will you accept Christ so that you can be guided aright in your life and influence?
2. Will you school and train yourself to do a sharp job for the Lord Jesus-
3. as a pastor, teacher, a student of the grace of God as Gamaliel was the Law-

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