

THE APOSTLE PAUL WAS ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING* AND HE WAS FORBIDDEN TO DO SO

Introduction- BY THE HOLY SPIRIT- WHAT LEADS THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BE SO LENIENT THEN SO STRICT?

1. We might well be amazed at what strange movement the Holy Spirit takes in these matters.
2. This morning we saw that He set aside the law, very few restrictions- but here- forbidden!
3. We need to look carefully to see if the Holy Spirit might have reason to forbid us something like this today!

I.- THE SPIRIT FORBID THEM TO PREACH THE WORD IN ASIA Acts 16:6 ,SUFFERED THEM NOT* v.7

A. WAS THERE ANYTHING WRONG WITH PREACHING IN ASIA? Our famous words- I didn't do anything wrong!

1. Preaching in Asia was a legitimate job, in fact it was for the glory of Christ- but forbidden
2. When I look at a lot of the ways we waste time today- and call it recreation- golf, bowling,
3. Perhaps not wrong- but was Preaching? - /dragging Central, lots of party time, "vacation"

B. THERE ARE OTHER THINGS THAT SHOULD NOT BE NAMED* BUT ARE THERE

1. We find Christian kids- and adults- at gang fights, beer busts, dance halls, Movies, taverns,
2. youth night clubs, neighborhood card games, necking parties, sampling druggs
3. These things aren't like preaching gospel in Asia- but more like playing with fire

C. IT CAN BE WRONG* TO EVEN DO ~~GOOD~~ GOOD THINGS, IF IT KEEPS US FROM DOING BETTER THINGS!

1. The Prodigal son was doing wrong, the eldier son was doing right- but was still wrong!
2. I Cor 6:12 tells that all things are lawful- Phil. 3:14 speaks of the prize of the high calling
3. Preaching in Asia would have been good- but second best- & prevented them from all Europe! Asia could have been disasterous- it certainly was for Napoleon.

II.- THE SPIRIT GAVE A VISION THAT CALLED THEM INTO MACEDONIA Acts 16:9

And there they met the man-Luke - Had they not gone this way- perhaps no Luke or Acts

A. GOD HAS HIS PURPOSE - OBEY HIM AND KNOW THAT HE IS GOD

1. He might want you to cultivate some Christian virtues- Col. 3:10-17 to use in the future
2. He might want you to go to the backside of the desert as Paul did- for training & seasoning
3. To many recruits in God's army want to be Generals without going through Boot Camp!

B. LAST WEEK I SPOKE TO YOU OF JOBS THAT MIGHT HAVE GOD'S BLESSINGS* NOW ABOUT CALLINGS!

1. Few people make things happen, some watch things happen, most never know what happens!
2. If you will listen to God's calling in your life you can make a mark on history- God and you
3. You have got to be willing to be listening for the quiet forbidding of the Holy Spirit?

B. THE SPIRIT GUIDES BY LEADING AND FORBIDDING YOU WHILE YOU ARE BEING FAITHFUL TO A JOB

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|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Paul- Preaching in Asia | Peter- fishing | Elisha- Plowing | |
| 2. John- Following Jh. Bapt. | David- tending sheep | Saul- out hunting | better |
| 3. Matt- collecting taxes | Joshua- honest spy | Samuel- night watch | for something |
- You do the best job you can for the Lord, keep being faithful, and you might get a call

III.- DOES IT PAY TO ANSWER HIS CALL? IS IT WORTHWHILE TO TURN FROM ASIA AND BITHYNIA?

IT WON'T PAY UNLESS YOU FOLLOW HIS LEADING.

A. HOW CAN YOU HAVE THE CALL OF GOD TODAY

1. Allow God to call you to His Son- for Salvation
2. Let His Spirit call you to consecration-
3. Then you are ready to be faithful in service awaiting His further call-

How DOES THE Holy Spirit GOING P105.158

1. Know the Word
2. Seek it by prayer
3. He leads by circumstances
4. "Common sense"
5. His Spirit had desires
6. Any closing + opening door

and seperation?

B. WHEN YOU SURRENDER TO GOD HE EXPECTS YOU TO KEEP YOUR AGREEMENT- Luke 9:62

1. Full surrender to the will and purpose of Christ is like a wedding-
2. God is jelous- He does not want surrendering to Christ, and flirting with Satan. Ecc 5:445
3. God wants your heart- and your obedience- see tract "Others may, you cannot"

C. IS IT WORTH WHILE, DOES IT PAY, DO THE RESULTS JUSTIFY ANSWERING GOD'S CALL?

1. When you know you are walking in God's will- you have peace with God, and peace of God.
2. When you see souls saved, others helped, you know it is worth while- Ahta's killed, now are saved.
3. Obey the Spirit's leading, and the world is a better place, and heaven sweeter.

Concl. ARE YOU WILLING TO ACCEP T THE FORBIDDING GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. If you are not, then just be someone who doen't know what is happening-
2. If you are- then let God know about it. Let men also know about it- the church can pray
3. There is a need for young and old alike to go all the way with the Lord today.