

DEFENCE AND CONFIRMATION

PAUL'S EVANGELISM

"I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.

~ Philippians 1:7

1. Introduction

- a. Why are we at the county fairs? Evangelism is necessary.
- b. Evangelism is not gathering people, or meeting needs of flesh (music, games, food, etc.)
- c. Evangelism requires words – a message declared – Christ crucified – 1 Cor 15:10-11
- d. Two functions of evangelism found in → Phil 1:7; the goal: faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

2. Defence and Confirmation

- a. The fence of faith is thin – you can't sit on it.
- b. Without faith men resist truth- 2Th 3:2, 2Ti 3:8; with faith men acknowledge truth -Ti 1:1
- c. Evangelism defends truth against faithless, and confirms truth in those that believe
- d. Defence ~*def.* – resist attack from enemies (Rom 11:28, Gal 4:16, Phil 3:18, Col 1:21)
- e. Confirmation ~*def.* – to make firm, strengthen together, embolden – Phi 1:14
- f. You can't defend until you are first strengthened, else you will fold like a paper sack.
- g. Acts of confirmation - Acts 14:22, Acts 15:32, 15:41, 1 Cor 1:6-8
- h. Confirmation is needed for the weak, defence is needed for the skeptic – 1Th 5:14,
- i. In evangelism you are always doing one of these two things.

3. Paul's Pattern of Evangelism

- a. How did Paul do it?
- b. Saul increased in strength and confounded the Jews by proving - Acts 9:19-23, 9:29
- c. His manner was to open and allege, then some confirmed, some attacked - Acts 17:2-5
- d. He disputed in the synagogues - Acts 17:16-17, some mocked, others believed 17:32-34
- e. He reasoned in every synagogue in order to persuade - Acts 18:4-5
- f. He was disputing and persuading for two years! Acts 19:8-10

4. We Need Evangelists

- a. You will face weak: support, strengthen, confirm - Rom 14:1, 15:2
- b. You will face opposition: be patient, allege, reason, preach – Gal 4:19-21, 1 Cor 2:2
- c. Do the work of an evangelist - 2 Tim 4:5
- d. Do it with people in your heart – pray for boldness (Eph 6:19), pray for men (Rom 10:1)
- e. We need more who are able to defend and confirm with zeal and love of the truth.
- f. Make it your work. Paul is gone – we need others to step up and do it.