

Acts # 84

“I Consider My Life Worth Nothing To Me”

Acts 20:7-24

We were not saved and left on earth to live comfortable, painless, prosperous lives; that’s what Heaven is all about.

As we suffer in this life, God can demonstrate His love through His grace provision in a way that He couldn’t in Heaven.

There is no suffering too great for the plan of God which is greater than any pressure of life.

We are fully prepared for suffering in spiritual maturity through biblical truth in our souls to weather any storm

in life but we are not prepared for suffering until then.

Suffering for blessing determines our greatness in life as God’s plan is for us is to use His grace system of problem solving and have His blessing and His tranquility during the greatest difficulties in life.

We cannot reach the point of consistent suffering for blessing until we reach the point where we live by way of our own minds from our own processed biblical truth, making application of that truth as we consistently pass God-ordained momentum testing as an extension of the angelic dispute being played out in human history.

And spiritual growth is accelerated from the application of God’s Word to our experiences in testing. *No believer in Jesus Christ can fulfill the plan of God and glorify the Lord Jesus apart from momentum testing.*

Human free-will plays an important part in testing because we must make the right decision based on our application of the biblical truth accumulated in our souls.

Paul wants to remind them of his ministry and these men have all been trained by Paul who gave them biblical truth with which they were able to grow up spiritually and when they did, they realized they had the spiritual gift of pastor-teacher.

As qualified pastors, they had to be spiritually self-sustained being dependent on the Word of God and no longer dependent upon Paul.

And when they depended upon the Word, they were able to function under their spiritual gifts within their spiritual lives and therefore, were able to produce much fruit known as divine good.

Paul’s been devoting all his time and efforts to his ministry but the big thing is not what he did publicly on the outside, it was his mental attitude on the inside.

Humility is thinking grace and authority-orientation.

Some people read this and think Paul's being conceited about his own ministry, bragging at length about how he suffered but it’s just the opposite; he was faithful in preaching God’s Word with God’s power for God’s glory.

The thing that’s most advantageous to all pastors and congregations for that matter is biblical truth.

Paul did not hold back anything from them that was profitable, he declared the entire plan of God to them contained in the Word of God.

All problems and pressures are resolved by knowing biblical truth, applying biblical truth and orienting to the grace of God.

Don't misunderstand; Paul's not afraid of death or of pressure; believe it or not, his struggle is a source of true joy (inner happiness in the plan of God) as it should be the experience of every believer in Jesus Christ.

What a powerful statement; see how costly Paul's ministry is; he's facing danger at every turn but he's committed to the plan of God.

Paul knew that anyone can have eternal life and become a child of God simply by receiving God's free gift and from that point on be in God's Hand safe, secure and forgiven forever! Do you know these things?