

## Paul's Concern For The Lost

Acts 20:17-35

## The Basis Of His Concern For The Lost (Acts 20)

- He regarded himself as a servant of the Lord. Verse 19
  - Past work in Ephesus as a servant. Ephesians 3:7-9
  - Paul frequently referred to himself as a "bondservant." Philippians 1:1; Romans 1:1; cf. 1 Corinthians 9:19

## The Basis Of His Concern For The Lost (Acts 20)

- He regarded himself as a servant.
- Essential to saving the lost.
  - Jesus set the example. Matthew 20:28; Philippians 2:5-7
  - Christians called to serve. Matthew 20:26; Matthew 18:1ff; Romans 12:3; Hebrews 10:24

## Characteristics Of Paul's Service Acts 20:19

- Paul's service was ...
- **Humble.** "*With all lowliness of mind.*" Ephesians 4:1; Philippians 3:5-8; Galatians 6:14
- **Tearful.** "*And with tears.*" Acts 20:31; 2 Corinthians 2:4
  - At Ephesus, tears caused by:
    - Ignorance. Acts 19:2
    - Blasphemy. Acts 19:9
    - Idolatry. Acts 19:28

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### Examples of others:

- Jesus. Luke 19:41-44
- Samuel. 1 Samuel 15
- Ezra. Ezra 10:1
- Paul. Romans 9:1ff; 10:1

## Characteristics Of Paul's Service Acts 20:19

- Paul's service was ...
- **Trying.** "*And with trials.*" 2 Corinthians 11:23-28; cf. Acts 14:11-19; 2 Timothy 1:8; 4:5
  - Labored with his hands. Acts 20:34; 2 Corinthians 12:15
  - Anxiety. 2 Corinthians 11:28
- **Rewarding.** Acts 19:9-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:19ff; Philippians 1:21; 4:1; 3 John 4

### The Extent Of Paul's Concern For The Lost

- He went to the lost. (Went to Ephesus twice.) cf. John 4:35; Matthew 9:37ff; Philippians 4:16
- Taught fearlessly. "*I shrank not from declaring to you ...*" Verse 26; Ezekiel 3:18ff
- Taught "*Publicly and from house to house.*" Verse 20; cf. 1 Corinthians 9:16; 2 Timothy 4:2

### The Extent Of Paul's Concern For The Lost

- Taught all. "*... Both Jews and Greeks.*" Verse 21; Acts 26:17; Galatians 2:7; cf. Romans 1,2,3; cf. James 2:1ff
- Taught persistently. Verses 18, 31; Romans 10:1; 9:3; John 9:4; Colossians 4:5

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- Paul's service was ...
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  - **Tearful.** "*And with tears.*"
  - **Trying.** "*And with trials.*"
  - **Rewarding.** Acts 19:9-10

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- Taught fearlessly.
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