PAUL: OUR PATTERN – Pt.2

FOR SERVING CHRIST

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake." – 2 Corinthians 4:5

1. Paul as a Pattern for Serving...

- a. Paul is Christ's servant Rom 1:1, 1Cor 9:19, Gal 1:10, Phi 1:1, Titus 1:1
- b. Service: def. = what is done at the command of or for the benefit of someone else
- c. Serving is how Paul follows Christ 1Cor 11:1, Phi 2:7, Eph 6:6-7, Phi 3:12
- d. Paul serves Christ because he was told to -1Cor 9:16, Acts 9:6, Acts 26:17, 2Tim 1:11
- e. Paul serves Christ because it's the least he can do Gal 2:20, 2Cor 5:14-15

2. ... The Church, the Members of Christ's Body

- a. Paul is chargeable to no man 1Cor 4:12, 2Cor 11:19, 12:13, 1Thes 2:9, 2Thes 3:9, 1Tim 5:8
- b. Paul's service to others is mostly spiritual Rom 1:11, 1Cor 8:1, 9:11, 14:12, Col 1:9, Rom 15:2
- c. With a focus on edifying the body 2Cor 10:8, 12:19, 13:10, Eph 4:12-16, 4:29, 1Th 5:11, 1Tim 1:4
- d. Charity = not just kind deeds, but seeing the truth work in other people 1Cor 13:3, 6-7, 2Tim 3:10

3. ... The Church, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth

- a. The church is people, but those people are supposed to be standing for truth 1Tim 3:15
- b. Paul patterns how to serve the truth: unifying around purity of doctrine Phi 1:27, 2:2, Eph 4:3
- c. Paul marks those who are both right & wrong Phi 3:16, Rom 16:27, 2Th 3:14, 1Ti 6:3-5
- d. Following Paul's stand for truth is how to combat the attacks on the church 2Tim 3:13-14, 4:2-4

4. ... In any Circumstance for Christ's Sake

- a. Suffering is expected 2Tim 3:12, Col 1:24, 2Cor 4:11, Phi 1:29, Acts 9:16
- b. With as much as is in him Rom 1:15, 2Cor 12:15, 1Cor 9:20-23, Phm 1:13
- c. Knowing how to be abased... -- Phi 4:12, Phi 1:12-13, 2Cor 6:4-5, Eph 6:20, Col 4:3, Eph 3:13
- d. Or how to abound 1Tim 6:17-18, 1Cor 7:22, 9:12, 16:6, Titus 3:12

5. ... And Creating More Servants as Patterns

- a. Paul isn't the only servant -- Rom 16:1, 1Cor 7:22-23, Gal 5:13, Col 3:24, 2Tim 2:24, Rom 14:8
- b. Paul is creating patterns after himself 2Tim 2:2, 3:10-14, Titus 2:7, 2Thes 1:2-3
- c. To put himself out of a job To see the work of the Lord continue on, rightly -- 1Thes 1:5-8