

# BE YE FOLLOWERS OF PAUL

## AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T

*"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."  
– 1 Corinthians 11:1*

### 1. Reasons to Be Followers Of Paul

- a. Over half of NT written by (13/27 books) or about (17/28 ch. in Acts & a mention in 2Pet 3) Paul
- b. The scripture says it – 2Thes 3:4, 1Thes 4:1, Phi 4:9 & 3:17, 1Cor 11:1 & 4:16
- c. God commanded it – 1Tim 1:1, Titus 1:3, Gal 1:1
- d. The gospel was committed to his trust – Gal 2:2&7, 1Tim 1:11, 1Cor 9:17
  - i. Paul's "MY gospel"s – Ro 2:16 & 16:25, 2Ti 2:8, 2Co 4:3, 1Thes 1:5, 2Thes, 2:14, Gal 1:8-12
- e. Jesus Christ sent Paul – 1Tim 1:12, Acts 9:15 & 26:16-18
- f. Paul was the last person to see the Lord Jesus Christ – 1Cor 5:8 (Acts 26:16, 2Cor 12:1&7)
- g. Peter defers to Paul – Gal 2:9, 2Pet 3:15-16
- h. You are not a Jew – John 4:22, Acts 15:11, Rom 11:13 & 15:16, Col 1:27
- i. Paul's message completes the word of God – Col 1:25-26, Eph 3:9-10
- j. For understanding of all things – 2Tim 2:7 (Col 1:9, Eph 1:18)
- k. Your salvation demands it – 1Tim 1:16
  - i. If you're saved, you're following Paul even if you don't know it, admit it, or want to

### 2. Consequences of Not Making Paul Your Pattern

- a. The gospel of Christ's finished work for salvation is distorted or hidden – 2Cor 4:3, Gal 1:8
- b. Jesus Christ is diminished – Paul speaks more of Christ than anyone in the scripture:
  - i. Christ/Jesus Christ/Christ Jesus (72% of NT), Lord Jesus Christ (76/82x's)
  - ii. Departing from Paul takes you away from magnifying Christ – Phi 1:20 & 3:7-9
- c. Your presently possessed & complete position in Christ disappears – Col 2:10, Eph 1:3, Rom 5:11
  - i. Your patience, endurance, faithfulness, & good works determine your standing with God
- d. Key tenants of Christianity deemphasized. Paul speaks about more than rest of NT combined:
  - i. Grace, Glory, Hope, Joy, Charity, Faith, Gospel, Thankfulness/thanksgiving, Righteousness, Redemption, Reconciliation, Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Church, Fellowship, Atonement\*, Dispensation\*, Communion\*, Body of Christ\* (*\*only found in Paul*)
- e. Ignorance of the will of God – (phrase alone = 17/25x's) – Eph 5:17 (*See "Paul: Our Pattern, Pt. 1"*)
- f. Ignorance of how to properly serve God – Rom 14:18-19 (*See "Paul: Our Pattern, Pt. 2"*)
  - i. The body of Christ is weakened & not built up – Eph 4:14-18
  - ii. Which results in wood, hay, stubble, and loss at the judgment seat – 1Cor 3:10,13,15