

Follow Me As I Follow Christ - A Journey with Paul

“Understanding What Paul Understood” David Owens

Scripture Reading: Psalm 46:1-3; Sermon covers: Acts 21-23 7.31.16

Introduction:

- A. “Life is _____...” M. Scott Peck, *The Road Less Traveled*.
- B. The Christian life is, at points, even more _____.
- C. Paul understood that _____ was _____ him always.
- D. Paul understood that God would not remove the _____ from his life, but would enable him to courageously face the obstacles and opposition.
- E. Because Paul understood these things, he put his _____ in _____.

I. The Story

- A. Acts 21:1-15—in spite of continued warnings about the _____ ahead, Paul would not be dissuaded from going to _____.
- B. Acts 21:17-20—Paul was encouraged by the church leaders to enter into a seven day Jewish purification rite to prove he still respected the old _____.
- C. Acts 21:27-36—Paul’s enemies from _____ followed him to Jerusalem, stirred up trouble and began to _____ Paul with the intention of _____ him.
- D. Acts 21:37-40—Paul was rescued by Roman soldiers and Paul asked for permission to _____ to the _____.
- E. Acts 22:22-29—The crowd listened to Paul until he mentioned the _____, then they opposed him and the Roman commander ordered Paul to be _____.
 - 1. Paul mentioned his _____ and escaped the flogging.
- F. Acts 22:30—The Roman commander had Paul stand before the _____.
- G. Acts 23:6-8—Paul caused a fight to erupt when he brought up the _____.
- H. Acts 23:11—The Lord stood by Paul and told him he would testify in _____.
- I. Acts 23:12-15—40 Jewish men formed a conspiracy in order to _____ Paul.
- J. Paul’s _____ played a role in saving Paul’s life by exposing the plot.
- K. Acts 23:23—The commander mobilized _____ bodyguards to move Paul to Caesarea to stand before Felix.

II. The Application

- A. What a _____ story this is.
- B. We can trust God’s _____ just like Paul did.
- C. All of us are going to face times in our lives when it feels like our lives are _____ out of _____.
- D. Paul’s clear understanding of God and God’s promises allowed him to think _____ and remain _____ in the midst of crisis.
- E. Psalm 46:1-3—nothing anyone or anything can throw at us will _____ that promise or any promise of God.
- F. We grow best through _____ and _____ when we _____ God (James 1:2-4).

Answer Key: Intro.A. difficult. B. difficult. C. God, with. D. hardships. E. trust, God. I.A. hardships, Jerusalem. I.B. Law. I.C. Asia, beat, killing. I.D. speak, crowd. I.E. flogged. I.E.1. Roman, citizenship. I.F. Sanhedrin. I.G. resurrection. I.H. Rome. I.I. kill. I.J. nephew. I.K. 472. II.A. comforting. II.B. promises. II.C. spinning, control. I.D. straight, calm. I.E. erase. I.F. troubles, hardships, trust.