

## **SERMON NOTES: Week 9, May 29, 2016**

### **FROM THIS DAY FORWARD . . .**

#### ***“WITNESS”***

##### **ACTS 20-22**

- **Paul is heading toward Jerusalem**

Ac 21:10–11, <sup>10</sup>After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. <sup>11</sup>Coming over to us, he took Paul’s belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, “The Holy Spirit says, ‘In this way the Jews of Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.’ ”

- **Paul is welcomed, warned and assaulted**

Ac 21:20–21, Then they said to Paul: “You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews have believed, and all of them are zealous for the law. <sup>21</sup>They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn away from Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or live according to our customs.

Ac 21:27–28, <sup>27</sup>When the seven days were nearly over, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul at the temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and seized him, <sup>28</sup> shouting, “Men of Israel, help us! This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against our people and our law and this place. . . . <sup>30</sup>The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut. <sup>31</sup>While they were trying to kill him, news reached the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar. <sup>32</sup>He at once took some officers and soldiers and ran down to the crowd. When the rioters saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

- **Paul gives his personal testimony**

Ac 22:21–22, <sup>21</sup>“Then the Lord said to me, ‘Go; I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’ ” <sup>22</sup>The crowd listened to Paul until he said this. Then they raised their voices and shouted, “Rid the earth of him! He’s not fit to live!”

- **The Lord offers encouragement**

Ac 23:11, <sup>11</sup>The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, “Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.”

### **THE CENTRAL POINT: The progress of the Gospel**

Luke 15:1-2, 1 Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear him. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

#### **Three stories:**

- **LOST SHEEP: In the open country**
- **LOST COIN: in the house**
- **LOST SONS**

#### **THEY GROSSLY MISJUDGED THEIR FATHER.**

- **HIS LOVE** (cf. Luke 15:17-19; Luke 15 :28)
- **HIS COMPASSION** (cf. Luke 15:20; Luke 15:28-30)
- **HIS GENEROSITY** (cf. Luke 15: 12, 22, 31)

#### **THEY MISUNDERSTOOD THEIR FATHER’S HEART**

- **JOY INEXPRESSIBLE** (cf. Luke 15:22-24)
- **GRACE OVERFLOWING** (Luke 15: 29-32)