

Preaching Like Paul

1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 4:9

Paul's Effectiveness Lay In Many Things

- He was *"not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,"* and he had strong faith in its *"power"* to save. (Romans 1:16)
- He believed in the headship and the Lordship of Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:22-23; Romans 10:9)
- He was willing to *"endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."* (2 Timothy 2:3, 10)
- He strongly believed in prayer and was not embarrassed to ask his brethren to pray *"for me."* (Ephesians 6:19)

Paul's Effectiveness Lay In Many Things

- He worked with others, and trained them to succeed him (cf. his letters to Timothy and Titus).
- He was *"set for the defense of the gospel."* (Philippians 1:17)
- He was determined to magnify Christ in his body, *"whether by life or by death."* (Philippians 1:20)
- He never lost sight of that *"crown of righteousness."* (2 Timothy 4:8)

Preaching Like Paul

- **Paul was bold in his speech.**
 - At Paphos on the island of Cypress. (Acts 13:7-10)
- **Paul endeavored to reason with the people.**
 - In the synagogue in Antioch of Pisidia. (Acts 13:14-40)
- **Paul rightly *"divided the word of truth."***
 - Contrasted the law and the gospel (Galatians 2:16; 3:16-29; 4:21-31; Colossians 2:14-17; etc.).
 - Told of the consequences of returning to the law. *"you have fallen from grace"* (Galatians 5:4)

Preaching Like Paul

- **Paul preached what was needed.**
 - To unbelieving Jews who rejected Christ, beginning with their law, Paul preached the truth about the person of Christ. (Acts 13)
 - In Athens, Paul preached the truth about the one true God. (Acts 17:16-33)
 - To Felix and Drusilla, Paul *"reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come."* (Acts 24:25)

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- **Paul declared *"the whole counsel of God."*** (Acts 20:27)
- **Paul was not adverse to calling names.**
 - Hymenaeus and Alexander whom he *"delivered unto Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme."* (1 Timothy 1:20)
 - Hymenaeus and Philetus who had *"strayed concerning the truth."* (2 Timothy 2:17-18)
 - *"Demas has forsaken me"* and that *"Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm."* (2 Timothy 4:10, 14)
 - Peter was guilty of hypocrisy. (Galatians 2:11-13)

Preaching Like Paul

- **Paul was passionate when he encountered those who were perverting the gospel.** (Acts 15:2; Galatians 2:5)
- **Paul was concerned about the purity of the church.**
 - He charged the brethren in Corinth to *"deliver such a one unto Satan,"* declaring *"that a little leaven leavens the whole lump."* (1 Corinthians 5:5-6)
- **Paul was humble.**
 - *"Chief"* of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15).
 - *"Less than the least of all saints"* (Ephesians 3:8).
 - Preached *"Christ and him crucified"* (1 Corinthians 2:2); he did not elevate himself.

Preaching Like Paul

- **Paul preached when he was supported (Philippians 4:15-16) and when he was not.**
 - Labored *"night and day,"* not being a burden to any, in his effort to preach *"the gospel of God"* (1 Thessalonians 2:9).
 - He taught that brethren ought to support men who preach (1 Corinthians 9; 11:8-9), but this was not a factor in determining whether or not he would preach!
- **Paul was no quitter.** (Philippians 3:13-14)
 - He endured when he was in trouble. (2 Corinthians 11:23ff)
 - It is probable that very few churches of Christ today would tolerate a preacher like Paul!

Preaching Like Paul

- **Paul was tactful.** *"Grace to you and peace from God your Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."* (10 times) NOTE: Philemon
- **Paul was happy.** (Philippians 4:6, 11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 18)

Preaching Like Paul

"He preach'd as though he ne'er would preach again, as a dying man to dying men."