

The Sovereignty of God and the Confidence of the Gospel

Acts 18:1-23

The Gospel penetrates even **Corinth**. v. 1-8

Paul's description of his ministry there: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

The method ...

The message ...

The messenger ...

But God strengthens Paul through ...

_____ believers

_____ co-workers

Note Paul's singular focus: "*Paul was occupied with the word ...*"

Why is that so essential?

But the Jews there opposed him and resorted to _____.

Paul's response?

"... he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

So, Paul moves _____, and amazingly, Crispus (the synagogue ruler) is saved!

Surely that lets us know ...

The 3-fold **missional promise of God** to Paul: v. 9-11

I promise my _____. *"I am with you."*

I promise my _____. *"No one will attack you to harm you."*

I promise my _____. *"I have many in this city who are my people."*

The LORD will ...

... _____ out His own sheep (John 10:3ff).

... open their _____. (Acts 16:14)

... _____ them as His own. (Acts 15:14)

... give eternal life to those He has _____. (Acts 13:48)

God is letting Paul (and us) know that _____ has a mission and it will not _____.

And God, who has, in his sovereignty, assured us of the "ends", is also sovereign in the "means":

"Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent ..."

Three "responsibilities" in the Gospel and conversion:

God's ...

Ours ...

Theirs ...

A clear example of **promise** and **providence**: v. 12-17

Their charge against Paul was that his teachings were _____ and not _____, so therefore "contrary to the law".

Gallio ruled that it was a _____ that didn't require government intervention.

The result was a _____ that enabled Paul to speak the Gospel freely in Corinth and other Roman provinces.

God _____ Paul, just as He had promised!

Epilogue – the completion of Paul's Second Missionary Journey: v. 18-23

His work accomplished more than starting churches. It also _____ them.

Paul didn't work _____, but under the _____ of a local congregation.

Next stop: _____.