

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Lesson #17 -Attitude of a Servant

Scripture Reading: 2Timothy 2:23-26

Introduction:

1. In the reading, Paul teaches the attitude of a servant of God; a minister of His word.
2. We must reflect the attitude of a servant before God and men.
3. In Acts 18, we see the attitude of a servant exemplified.

I. KNOW WHEN TO SHAKE THE DUST OFF -vs. 4-8

A. OPPOSITION OR BLASPHEME

1. Paul testified to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ; they were not receptive.
2. The blood was on their own heads
 - a. Paul was innocent of blood for he declared the whole counsel of God -Ac 20:26
 - b. Ezekiel the watchman -Ez 3:16-21

B. OPENS THE DOORS TO OTHER SOULS

1. Crispus, his household, and many Corinthians believed and were baptized.
 - a. The city was given over to immorality
 - b. Many however, were obedient to the gospel -1Co 6:9-11
2. These verses shows us the value of knowing when to move on.

II. DON'T BE AFRAID TO SPEAK -vs. 9-11

A. PAUL KNEW HE WOULD NOT BE HARMED AT THIS TIME

1. The Lord had revealed this to him -vs. 9, 10
2. This is proven later by Gallio who did not want to judge the matter of the Jews -vs. 12-17

B. WE DO NOT FEAR MEN

1. We fear God -Mt 10:28
2. We remember the example found in Daniel -Dan 3:16-18

III. KNOW THE ATTITUDE IN CORRECTION -vs. 24-28

A. SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE

1. Apollos was eloquent and mighty in the word, but he only knew the baptism of John.
2. He was taught more accurately the things of the Lord and he responded.

B. ACCEPT BIBLICAL CORRECTION

1. Not all correction is biblical -e.g. -1Ki 13:16-25
2. We should always look to the word for truth and have humility to change when necessary.

Conclusion:

1. When we struggle as Christians, remember that victory is already ours though Jesus -Ro 8:37
2. When others reject the gospel, it is not failure on our part.
3. We must not become discouraged, but continue to plant the seed -1Co 3:6, 7