

# OBEDIENT TO THE VISION

## ACTS 26:19-20

Text:

Introduction:

Sometimes we need a renewed vision of God and for God and His purpose for our lives.

### **2 Timothy 1:6-7**

<sup>6</sup>Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. <sup>7</sup>For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

As we look at this passage we read of Paul's vision that motivated him to live for and serve God faithfully.

## **1. A VISION FOR THE LORD**

### **Philippians 2:5-8**

<sup>5</sup>Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup>Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: <sup>7</sup>But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: <sup>8</sup>And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

In this passage we see that Jesus:

- Did not seek status
- Served voluntarily
- Met the needs of others

Those who are the greatest leaders or those who are servants

When trials come – remember the Lord

### **1 Peter 2:23**

<sup>23</sup> Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:

### **Hebrews 12:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Difficult days will come and as they do we need to focus on the life of Christ and all things will come into perspective.

## 2. A VISION FOR THE LOST (VS. 20)

### **Acts 26:20**

<sup>20</sup> But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Sadly much of the growth in churches today is nothing more than member trading.

Remember the Lost:

#### A. Need the Lord

Paul was driven by conviction that people without the Lord are hopelessly lost and condemned to an eternity apart from God in Hell.

We have become far too complacent toward the state of the lost.

We must remember:

### **Numbers 16:48**

<sup>48</sup> And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed.

#### B. We must tell them

### **2 Timothy 1:11-13**

<sup>11</sup> Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a

teacher of the Gentiles. <sup>12</sup>For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. <sup>13</sup>Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

God could have chosen angels to deliver the Gospel, but He has instead entrusted the task to us.

### **3. A VISION FOR YOUR TESTIMONY**

Being blameless doesn't mean that you'll never be blamed or accused.

Paul was accused of many things.

Being blameless means that the charges don't stick, because they are refuted by our testimony.

#### **1 Timothy 4:12**

<sup>12</sup>Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

### **4. A VISION FOR THE CHURCH (VS. 20)**

#### **Acts 26:20**

<sup>20</sup>But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

A. The people of the church

Born again believes

B. The purity of the church

## **5. A VISION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

A. The doctrine of Christ

1. He was God in the flesh

### **John 1:1**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

### **John 8:58-59**

<sup>58</sup> Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. <sup>59</sup> Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

2. He died for our sins

### **Hebrews 9:22**

<sup>22</sup> And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

3. He rose again on the third day

### **1 Corinthians 15:4**

<sup>4</sup> And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

## B. Doctrine of God's Word

### **2 Timothy 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

## C. Doctrine of man

### **Romans 5:12**

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

### **Romans 3:23**

<sup>23</sup> For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

## D. Doctrine of salvation

### **John 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

### 1. By the Word

### **Romans 10:17**

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

### 2. Through the Spirit

### **John 3:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of

the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Close:

We need to be obedient to the heavenly vision

**Proverbs 29:18**

<sup>18</sup> Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he.