

LOVE FOR SOULS

ACTS 20:18-38

Text:

Introduction:

This text gives us a look into the life and into the heart of Paul that should stir one's soul to the very depths. It is a wonderful picture and shows us one of the greatest secrets of Paul's power.

1. THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVE FOR SOULS

A. Because Christ loved souls

1. To not love men's souls is to be unlike Christ.

B. Because love for souls is necessary to bring about success in their salvation.

C. Because the souls value is worth more than any amount of money.

Mat 16:26 "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Mark 8:36 "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

C. Because lack of love for souls reveals either great hardness of heart or inexcusable ignorance.

2. HOW DOES THIS LOVE COME ABOUT?

A. In a deep concern for their salvation.

B. In earnest effort for their salvation.

C. In our being is a constant lookout for opportunities to share the gospel with.

D. In going out to seek them.

E. In joy over a lost soul that is saved.

Luke 15:7 "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

F. In sacrifices made to save them.

G. In deep sorrow of soul for those that refuse the gospel.

1. Too often we are provoked rather than sad.

3. HOW TO OBTAIN IT.

Love for souls is the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit alone can impart to you this glorious grace. But on which conditions does He impart it?

- A. A deep and genuine love for souls on our part.
- B. Prayer
- C. Seeing a soul as Christ sees the soul
 1. The value of a soul
 2. The peril of a soul

2 Pet 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."