

THE **HEART** *of* EVANGELISM

The Example of The Apostle PAUL

Acts 13:1--28:31

1 Corinthians 9:19-23



THE **HEART** *of* EVANGELISM



THE Worlds
GREATEST NEED

(Rom 3:23; 1:16,17;
Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12)

Our **GREATEST
SERVICE**

(Acts 8:4)

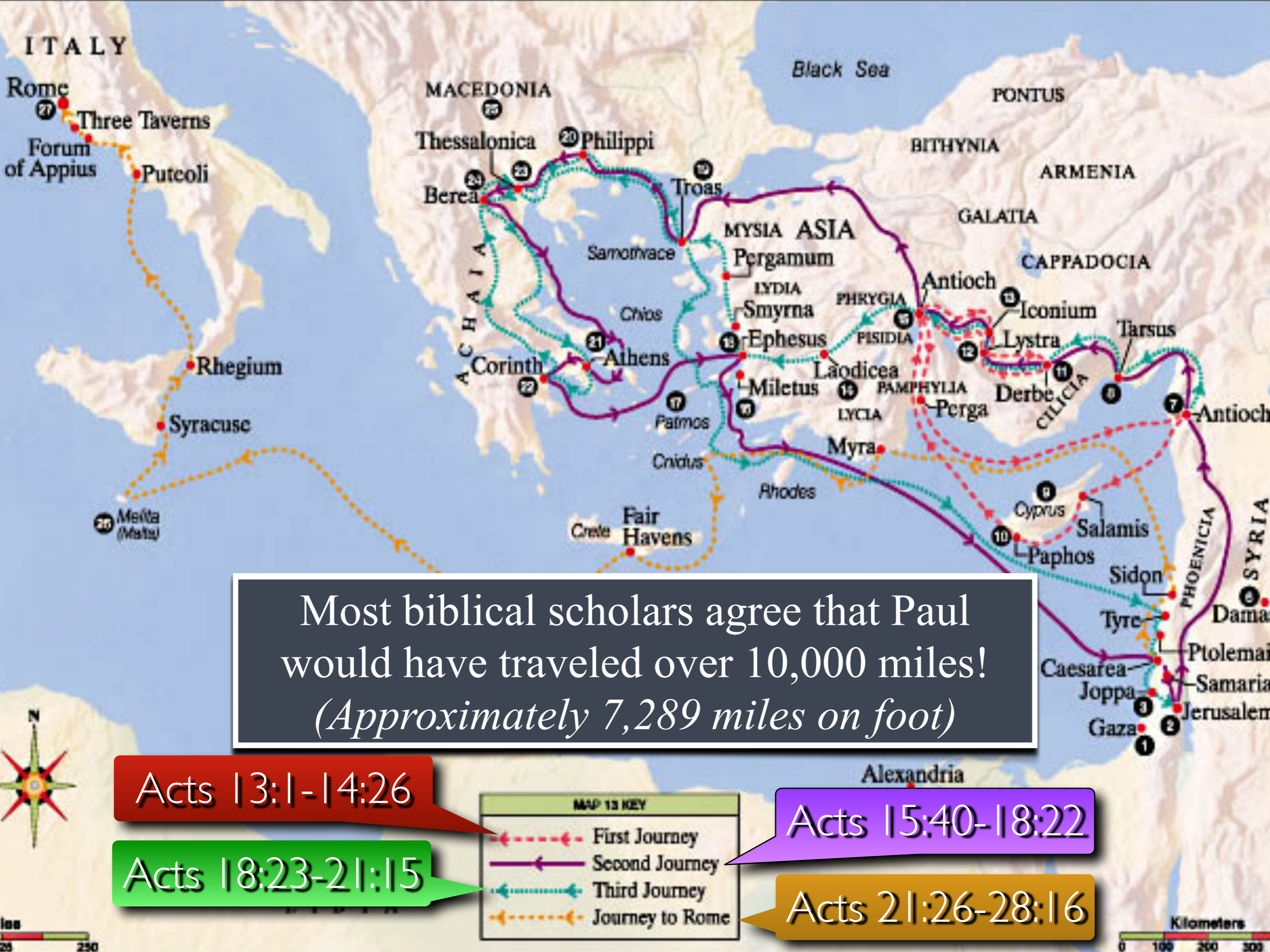
Our **GREATEST
RESPONSIBILITY**

(Mt. 28:19,20)

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**AFTER PAUL'S CONVERSION, (ACTS 9), HE TRAVELLED
THOUSANDS OF MILES SEEKING LOST SOULS.**



Most biblical scholars agree that Paul would have traveled over 10,000 miles!
(Approximately 7,289 miles on foot)

Acts 13:1-14:26

Acts 18:23-21:15

Acts 15:40-18:22

Acts 21:26-28:16

| MAP 13 KEY | |
|------------|-----------------|
| | First Journey |
| | Second Journey |
| | Third Journey |
| | Journey to Rome |

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- Opposed false teaching in Salamis (Acts 13:9-11)
- Defended the gospel against opposition in Antioch Pisidia (13:42-52; etc.)
- Experienced rejection in Antioch Pisidia (Acts 13:46,50)
- Had to fight an uphill battle against slander in Iconium (Acts 14:2)
- Pleaded with people to turn from vain worship in Lystra (Acts 14:14-18)
- Stoned and left for dead in Lystra (Acts 14:19,20)

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- Preached the gospel in the next city, Derbe, and found great success (Acts 14:20,21)
- Retraced his steps and strengthened the new converts, warning them that “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” (Acts 14:22)
- Sent from Antioch to Jerusalem to oppose the Judaizers (Acts 15)
- After spending some time in Antioch, Paul heads back out for journey number 2 (Acts 15:40-18:22)

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- Paul goes back through Asia, then into Macedonia as instructed (16:1-10)
- After preaching in Philippi, he and Silas are arrested and thrown into the dungeon - results in the conversion of the jailor (Acts 16:11-40)
- Having been asked to leave Philippi, he goes to Thessalonica - again faces violence from the unbelieving Jews - leaves and finds honest hearts in Berea, but Jews from Thessalonica followed him there, forcing him to leave (Acts 17:1-15)

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- Paul travels to Athens, preaches against the rampant idolatry there, but finds little success (Act 17:16-34)
- Paul next travels to Corinth, finding friends in Aquila and Priscilla, spends weeks preaching in the synagogue - but they “opposed him and blasphemed.” (Acts 18:1-6)
- Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue believed and was baptized - and after being encouraged through a vision, he remains in Corinth for a year and six months (plus some). (Acts 18:7-18)

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- Paul leaves Corinth, shaves his head in Cenchrea, passes back through Ephesus and returns to Antioch [end of second journey] (Acts 18:18-22)
- Paul heads out again “and went over the region of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples” (Acts 18:23)
- He then passes through the upper region of Asia and arrives again in Ephesus where he baptizes 12 men (Acts 19:1-7)
- Unbelieving Jews speak “evil of the way,” but he continues to teach there for two years (Acts 18:8-10)

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- Paul was making plans to return to Macedonia & Achaia, & then to Jerusalem (Acts 18:21) It was about this time when his teaching caused a riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:21-41)
- Paul leaves Ephesus and goes to Macedonia where he has to avoid Jewish plots to kill him (Acts 20:1-6)
- Paul worships with the saints in Troas, then sails to Miletus where he calls for the elders Ephesus to come to him (Acts 20:1-17)
- Paul warns them of false teachers and informs them he will never see them again (Acts 20:18-38)

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- Paul is warned everywhere he goes that the Holy Spirit had revealed that chains and tribulation await him in Jerusalem (Acts 20:23; 21:4,10-13)
- Why was Paul going to Jerusalem? (1 Corinthians 16:1-9; 2 Corinthians 1:15-17; and Romans 15:22-33)
- Paul was determined to finish his mission (Acts 20:22–27)

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Acts 20:17–25 (NKJV)

¹⁷ From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. ¹⁸ And when they had come to him, he said to them: “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; ²⁰ how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house,

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Acts 20:17–25 (NKJV)

²¹ testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. ²⁴ But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ “And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more.

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■ In Caesarea, Agabus prophesies Paul's imprisonment in Jerusalem (Acts 21:8-12)

Acts 21:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” ¹⁴ So when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, “The will of the Lord be done.”

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- So Paul went to Jerusalem knowing he faced trouble there, but he went anyway according to what had been revealed to him (Acts 19:21; Romans 15:30-33).
- Paul arrived in Jerusalem and was informed by James and the elders that many of his brethren had been misinformed about his teaching. They urged him to try and keep peace by following the customs regarding purification. Paul did as they suggested, (Acts 21:15-25)
- These efforts failed (Acts 21:26-28:16)

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- The question then, “Did Paul sin in submitting to the temple ritual? (Acts 21:26)?”
- The answer is no. When he was with the Jews, he lived as the Jews so he might reach them with the gospel, (1 Cor. 9:19-23).
- It was not wrong for Paul, or any Jew, to keep the things in the Law, as long as they understood it was not required of them and was not for their justification, (Romans 14:1-12).

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- Paul was not wrong for keeping the Sabbath, refraining from eating unclean meats, shaving his head in Cenchrea, observing the Passover, observing the purification rituals when entering the temple, or circumcising Timothy. (Acts 16:3)
- He was doing things he knew he didn't have to do to prevent alienating himself unduly from his brethren in the flesh so he could teach them. (1 Cor. 9:19-23; Rom. 14; 2 Cor. 8-10)

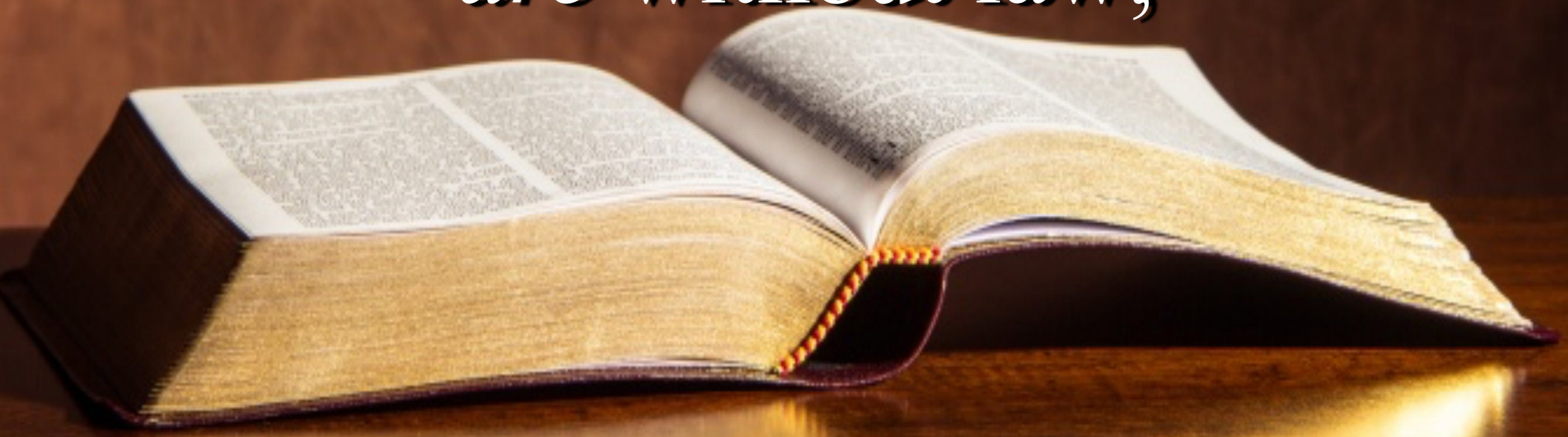
1 CORINTHIANS 9:19–23 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For though I am free from all *men*, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those *who are* under the law, as under the law, that I might win those *who are* under the law;



1 CORINTHIANS 9:19–23 (NKJV)

²¹ to those *who are* without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those *who are* without law;



1 CORINTHIANS 9:19–23 (NKJV)

²² to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some. ²³ Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with *you*.



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May we learn
from Paul's example in
these matters.

**WE MUST NEVER
COMPROMISE when
it comes to the truth!**

(Gal. 2:5; 4:16; Acts 15;
2 Tim 1:13)

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May we learn
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these matters.

When it comes to matters of liberty, we need to go the extra mile and do all we can to prevent others from feeling alienated from us.
(Rom. 14; 2 Cor. 8-10)

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**Our ATTITUDE towards
the LOST is manifested
in what we do, not just
in what we say
(Ro 9:1-5; 10:1;
2 Cor. 11:22-29; 12:15)**

■ PAUL FACED: (2 Cor. 11:22-29)

- ▶ Strong opposition / hatred
- ▶ False teachers / Liars
- ▶ Rejection and slander / from idolaters, but mostly from those who professed faith in God.
- ▶ Apathy and disinterest
- ▶ Danger / fear / exhaustion / hardship / (1 Cor. 15:30)
- ▶ Physical persecution / stoning / beatings / imprisonment and eventual death (2 Tim. 4:6-8)

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Our ATTITUDE towards the LOST is manifested in what we do, not just in what we say
(Ro 9:1-5; 10:1; 2 Cor. 11:22-29; 12:15)

We can ONLY control what we do - not how others respond
(1 Corinthians 3:6)

We should be STRIVING to maximize our influence, abilities & efforts!
(Mat. 5:13-16; Phili. 2:14-16; 1 Thes. 1:6-10)

WE MUST TEACH DESPITE REJECTION & PERSECUTION!

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Our **GREATEST
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(Acts 8:4)

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Evangelism Is Part of Being A Follower of Jesus
ARE WE TRULY FOLLOWING JESUS?



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1 CORINTHIANS 9:19–23 (NKJV)

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