

PAUL'S MANNER OF LIFE
Acts 18:18-23

INTRODUCTION:

- A. As we think of Paul, it is usually, Paul the Apostle
- 1) Accused, convicted, beaten, brutalized
 - 2) He did suffer greatly but there were many other aspects of his life, unknown to us.

- B. Paul wrote to Timothy of his, "manner of life"
II Timothy 3:10-11
- 1) "manner" = hagoge = "mode of life", "lifestyle"
 - 2) Paul had a consistency to his life

- C. We are not Apostle Pauls
- 1) Only one in the history of the church
 - 2) His lifestyle is important to us

I. Paul Did Not Live As Hectically, As Some Imagine vs. 18a

- A. Time did not tyrannize him
- 1) "And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while"
prosmeno = "to remain at a place"
 - 2) "and then took his leave of the brethren"

- B. Jesus was a creature of time
- 1) He lived quietly, never seeming to hurry
 - 2) He lived with patience, waiting His "hour"

II. Paul Had a Time For Private Devotion vs. 18b

- A. "Having shorn his head in Cenchrea:"
- 1) "shorn" = keiromai = "to have one's hair cut"
 - 2) He had let his hair grow long

- B. "For he had a vow"
- 1) "vow" = euch = "vow" = A temporary Nazarite vow of thirty days during which abstinence from wine was practiced and the hair was not cut. The cutting of the hair marked the termination of the vow.
 - 2) David vowed vows. Psalm 116:18- "I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of His people."
 - 3) One should vow carefully. Eccles. 5:4 "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: "pay that which thou hast vowed."

III. Paul Was Committed To Preaching vs. 19-20

- A. He had not forsaken the Jews
- 1) vs. 6 "from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles"
 - 2) He still kept their feasts vs. 21

- B. His preaching at Ephesus again had one stipulation
 - 1) "but I will return unto you again"
 - 2) "if God will" James 4:15 - "For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this or that."

IV. Paul Had a Great Love For Churches

- A. He went to Jerusalem vs. 22a
 - 1) He saluted the church
 - 2) haspazomai = "to draw to one's self"
- B. He went down to Antioch vs. 22
 - 1) This was a church of greatness
 - 2) They, "sent him forth" 13:2-4
- C. He went to many churches vs. 23
 - 1) "in order" = kathexes = "successively", "systematically", "definite schedule"
 - 2) "strengthening" = episterizo = "to set fast upon", "fix firmly upon", "to establish"
 - 3) "making the disciples strong in the faith"

V. All Of God's People Have A Manner Of Life Luke 6:46

- A. People know us by the way we live
 - 1) Our words are believable
 - 2) Our manner of life undeniable
- B. Our lifestyle should consist of two equal parts-Luke 6:47-49
 - 1) listening
 - 2) doing

