

THEY WHICH PREACH THE GOSPEL SHOULD LIVE OF THE GOSPEL
I COR. 9:1-15

Introduction:

- A. How should those who preach the gospel live?
 - 1. Should they "work" like everybody else?
 - 2. Is the preacher who "earns his own living" more noble than his "preaching" brethren?
 - 3. When is a man "preaching for money?"
 - 4. Should a preacher preach about "supporting the preacher?"
 - 5. Who is responsible to see that the preacher is adequately supported? The Deacons?

- B. Paul seems to unburden himself in this letter.
 - 1. The Corinthians have taken advantage.
 - 2. They tolerate in others what they will not tolerate in Paul.

I. PAUL VINDICATES HIS APOSTLESHIP. V1-6

- A. Paul's questions.
 - 1. "Am I not an Apostle?"
 - 2. "have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord?"
 - 3. "am I not free?" eleutheros - at liberty.

- B. Paul's proof of apostleship.
 - 1. "If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you."
 - 2. "for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord."
 - a. seal = sphragis - a seal with which anything is fastened up or marked.

- C. Paul's answering argument. v3
 - 1. "mine answer to them that examine me is this."
 - 2. examine = anakrino - to separate or divide up, to examine carefully, investigate.

3. answer = apologia = a defense, a speech in defense.
- D. What "powers" do we possess? (rights).
1. power = eksousia - liberty or authority to do anything.
 2. Paul's stated powers.
 - a. The right to food and drink. v4
 - b. A right to mercy. v5
 - c. A right to full support. v6

II. PAUL'S ARGUMENTS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY.

- A. Illustrations from life. v7.
1. A soldier.
 2. A husbandman, vintner.
 3. A shepherd.
- B. Are these inappropriate illustrations. v8
1. "Say I these things as a man?"
 2. Human arguments you say?"
- C. What did the law say?
1. "or saith not the law the same also?"
 2. For it is written in the Law of Moses."
 - a. "thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn."
 - b. "Doth God care for oxen?"
 - c. Was God thinking only of oxen when He said this?
 3. "or saith he it altogether for our sakes?"
 4. Does He not speak for our sakes?
 5. "for our sakes, no doubt, this is written."
 - a. "he that ploweth, should plow in hope." v11
 - b. "and he that thresheth in hope should be partaker in hope."
- D. If this is true, why didn't Paul use this power? v12
1. Partaker = metochos - a sharer with another.

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2. suffer = eao - to let, let be, permit.
3. hinder = egkope - cutting a trench in the way of an enemy.

F. Examples from the temple. v13

1. "Do you not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple?"
2. "and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar?"

III. THE PLAN GOD HAS ORDAINED. V14

A. What has God established?

1. This should settle the arguments.
2. Will we argue with God?

B. "on the same principle, the Lord has ordered."

1. ordained = dietaksen.
2. This is a plain statement.

C. If a course of action is commanded, dare we argue with it?

1. Would we argue with the plan of salvation?
2. Which scripture is the most true?

D. The limitation of God's command.

1. Only those who preach the gospel.
2. Other areas of service left to the church.

IV. PAUL REFUSED THEIR SUPPORT. V15

A. He did not use his rights.

1. "but I have used none of these things.
2. I did not take advantage of the right.
 - a. To eat and drink.
 - b. To lead about a wife.
 - c. To be supported.

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B. He was not writing to get their money.

1. "neither have I written these things, that it should be done unto me"
2. Nor do I intend to claim it in this letter.

C. He had rather die!

1. "for it were better for me to die,"
2. I had rather die first.

D. Why?

1. "than that any man should make my glorying void."
2. The one thing he could do to create a source of pride.
3. What else could he do to prove that he had no base motive?
4. If you invoke a principle and it is misunderstood, the only course of action is to refuse the money.

E. If the owner of a company "orders" a store manager to

- take care of you financially, would you ask about it?
1. For your family?
 2. Wal-Mart Sam Walton.

