

Paul in Jerusalem

Pastor Ross Sterling Russell, Church on the Beach, 10-18-20

Text: Acts 21:15-26

1. Give the Lord praise for all He does. *Psalm 71:14-19, Proverbs 25:25, Acts 21:19, 1 Peter 2:9*

Let's give God praise every day! Wherever you go. You are His representative. You live as spokesman for the Chamber of Heaven! A town crier with Good News. An ambassador. A roving embassy for Heaven. A heavenly citizen here to proclaim God's excellencies.

2. Jesus fulfilled the Law. *Matthew 5:17, Romans 8:3-4, Colossians 2:16-17, Hebrews 8:1-13, 10:1*

2. Promote peace. *Matthew 10:16-18, Romans 12:18*

Paul decided to go through with the plan because there was a chance it would keep the peace in a potentially volatile situation. We need to do the same when possible. Romans 12:18 says, "As far it depends on us, be at peace with all men." That means when we go into a situation where believers are doing things we don't think are necessary, it is better to conform to the situation, as long as we don't compromise our principles and understanding of how it is to attain justification and salvation.

3. Be all things to all men to share the Gospel. *1 Corinthians 9:20*

When we are trying to reach the lost, here at home, or overseas, it is important "not to offend them needlessly, but to conform to their innocent customs in regard to dress, language, modes of traveling, sitting, eating, etc. Paul did nothing more than this. He violated none of the dictates of honesty and truth." (Barnes) Paul did what he needed to do to continue on his mission given to him by God. We also need to keep this in mind. To keep from being offensive by not adhering to social cues and customs in another culture so we can win others to Christ.