

The Model Christian

Scripture: Acts 20:18-38

Introduction

Most of us, at some time in our Christian life, need a model of the kind of life that we are to lead as Christians. Paul, in this passage, details how he has modelled the Christian life.

I. The model of Christian responsibility

Acts 20:20, 27 And how I have kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed, and taught you publickly, and from house to house, For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

- A. To be profitable as a servant of God v. 20
- B. To preach the whole truth v. 27
- C. To nurture the church v. 28
- D. To let the church be God's church v. 30
- E. To place the church in God's hands v. 32
- F. To keep the church in prayer v. 36

II. The model of Christian sacrifice

Acts 20:22-24a And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear to myself

- A. To do God's will vv. 22, 21:13
- B. To accept our place in the kingdom v.
- C. To place the interest of the gospel first v. 24a

III. The model of Christian security

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

- A. To be placed in God's hands v.32a
- B. To relax in his arms v. 32b, Jude 1:24
- C. To know God's ability
Deuteronomy 33:27a The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

IV. The model of Christian joy

Acts 20:24b ...so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

- A. To know that you have done your part 2 Tim. 4:7
- B. To make it to the finish line v. 24, 2 Tim. 4:7
- C. To receive our reward 2 Tim. 4:8