



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

June 26, 2011

How It Changes Everything!

desert breeze community church

Acts 5:12-42 "Paradox"

Par.a.dox is a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth. Thesis: The normal Christian life reaches & repels receives blessings & beatings while treasuring Jesus above all things displaying His infinite worth & value.

HOW DO WE GET TO VV41-42?

Things We Need To Know & Remember . . .

- 1) Disappointment w/ God comes from unrealistic expectations of God.** (John 16:33; Rom. 8:36-37; James 1:2; 1 Pet. 4:12-13)
- 2) Life is not a playground but a battleground.** (Eph. 2:1-3; John 10:10; Eph. 6:12; 2Cor. 4:4, 11:3; 1Pet. 5:8)
- 3) God's power shows up according to God's providence.** (Acts 5:15 & 40; Heb. 11:32-38; Acts 28:1-10; 2 Cor. 12:8-9)
- 4) Lots of things don't make sense – yet.** (Acts 12:1-3; Deut. 29:29; Pro. 3:5-6; 1 Cor. 13:12)
- 5) We always get the grace we need when we need it.** (Acts 5:41; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Cor. 1:3, 9:8; 2 Pet. 3:18)
- 6) Treasuring Jesus above all things displays His worth and value.** (vv31, 41-42, Heb. 12:2; Phil. 1:21, 3:10, 4:13)

"When I am in the cellar of affliction, I look for the Lord's choicest wines." - Samuel Rutherford

"Those who dive in the sea of affliction bring up rare pearls." - Charles Spurgeon

"Christian Hedonists will do anything to have the King's wine and the rare pearls—even go to the cellars of suffering and dive in the sea of affliction." - John Piper



Growing

June 26, 2011

desert breeze community church

- 1)** What is paradoxical about the following statement?
The normal Christian life reaches & repels receives blessings & beatings while praising the glory of God's grace. What are some other paradoxical Christian truths? (i.e. Mark 8:35; Matt. 5:3-4, 20:26)
- 2)** Read Acts 5:12-42. What stands out to you from this text? The epitome of Christian wholeness & mental health is found in vv41-42. Explain. When you consider the events that precedes vv41-42 how do you explain their rejoicing and uninhibited gospel proclamation?
- 3)** Work through the list of things we need to know & remember if we are to get to vv41-42. Which one(s) are strengths and which one(s) growth areas for you? Why are realistic expectations about God important? How do these verses help? (John 16:33; Rom. 8:36-37; James 1:2; 1 Pet. 4:12-13)
- 4)** Do most American Christians & non-Christians see life as a playground or battleground? What difference would it make? (Eph. 2:1-3; John 10:10; Eph. 6:12; 2 Cor. 4:4, 11:3; 1 Pet. 5:8)? Peter goes from his shadow healing people (v15) to being flogged (v40). How is this God's providence (Heb.11:32-38)?
- 5)** Why is it that a lot of things don't make sense- yet (1 Cor. 13:12)? What does it mean that we always get God's grace when we need it (1Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 1:3, 9:8)? Pray that DB is a church that treasures Christ above all things displaying his value and worth!