

A New Commission Acts 26:12-18

Introduction

Suppose you are on a secret mission & you think you know the foe.

Then your boss informs you that you've really been helping the foe.

Such was Paul. God changed his commission. It's from Him.

I. Paul's conversion declares to you that the Gospel is true.

A. You can only explain the change in Paul by his meeting Christ.

1. His prejudices were overcome by this meeting. (Gentiles)

2. His commission was completely changed. [cf. 12]

B. You cannot deny that Paul had a real meeting with Christ.

1. All saw the light and fell to the ground.

2. Paul alone understood the Voice.

C. God changes your life with the Gospel.

1. His suffering and resurrection were for your conversion.

2. You need a total transformation—conversion.

II. The Light of Christ is necessary to bring about your conversion.

A. Darkness enshrouds you in your sin.

1. Sin is not merely a defect; it totally debilitates you.

2. Thus Paul was hell-bent on destroying the truth.

B. The Light of the world, destroys the darkness that blinds you.

1. You need a Light greater than the sun to convert you. Rev. 21:23

2. It must bring understanding.

C. This is normative for you only in God's working—not the event.

1. You don't need a Damascus-road event—nor a lightning strike.

2. Pray for the Light of the Gospel in your heart—understanding.

III. It is foolish for you to kick against the goads.

A. Throughout life you are being goaded toward Christ.

1. You need to understand the events of life in this way.

2. God is sovereign over your life—no surprises with Him.

B. Be thankful for the goads—God is prodding you.

1. It is a sign of His love as He disciplines you!

2. But let the goads point you to Christ rather than complaining.

C. Plead for understanding that you may do His will.

1. Seek Him that you may be converted.

2. Know that in Him you have a new commission.

Conclusion

Are you really laboring for the right? Have you received it from God?

Your commission is both to know Him & do His will.

Delight in God's will as your Savior did and does.

Psalms 104D, 43, 40C

