Scripture: Acts 9:19b-43

Sermon: Follow their Examples! 23 June 2013

INTRODUCTION: A SERIES OF EXHORTATIONS (Gal.5:22f; Phil.4:8f; 2Pt.1:5f; point: 1Cor.11:1)

- **A. BE TRUE BRETHREN** (1-31 & 32-43)
 - 1. same confession (20,22; Mt.18:16; Gal.2:6f; see Acts 2:22f & 13:30f)
 - 2. independent witnesses (19f & 32f; see 1Cor.15:1f,5,8f; Gal.1:11f; 2;1f)
 - 3. distinct spheres (Gal.2:7; see Acts c.1-7 & 8,9 then c.9b-12 & 13-28)
 - 4. confrontation (Gal.2:11f; see Mt.18:15f; Prov.27:6)
 - 5. *mutual respect* (Gal.2:2f,9; 2Pt.3:15)
 - 6. summary: mutuality in commonality (see 1Cor.12:13,4f; Eph.4:15,16)
- **B. SPEND TIME WITH EACH OTHER** (19b,26f; 43(Rom.12:16); see 2:42-47)
- C. AMAZE YOUR FRIENDS (21; see Phil.1:25; 1Tm.4:15; 2Pt.3:17f; see Col.3:5-17)
- D. SAY WHAT KNOW; LEARN TO SAY MORE BETTER (20,22 /Jn3:11; 1Pt3:15; Heb5:12f /2C5:21; Eph2:1-10)
- **E. PROCLAIM & PROVE** (20,22; 29; see 2:14f; 13:16f; 17:2f,17,22f; 2Cor.10:4)
- F. ASK FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR BOLD EVANGELISM (27; see 4:13,29-31; Lk.11:13; Eph.6:19,20)
- **G. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR** (26f; see 4:36f; see Lk.6:27-36; Tt.2:14; 3:14)
- **H. LISTEN TO YOUR FRIENDS** (25f,30; yet 21:12; see Mt.18:15f; 1Th.5:11; Heb.3:13; 10:23f)
- I. LOOK FORWARD TO GOD'S BLESSING ON US (31; see 5:41; 1Pt.4:12f; see Mt.5:3f(Ps.42:5,11; 43:5))
- J. REACH OUT WIDELY (32,31; 1:8; Mt.28:18f)
- K. SERVE
 - 1. who you find & who finds you (33f & 38f)
 - 2. with the gifts God gives you (34 /3:6; Rm12:3f; 1C12:4f; Eph4:7f /2C8:12 /miracles, 1C12:10,28f; Heb.4:2; Eph2:20)
 - 3. in the Name of Jesus (34,40; see Col.3:17)
 - 4. so that others would see for their salvation and the glory of God (41; 42,35; see Mt.5:16/6:1f)
 - 5. expect that God will use your service to bring people to faith (35,42; see Mt.28:18-20)
- **L. REMEMBER THE POOR** (36,39; 10:2,4; 24:17 /Gal.2:10; Eph2:10; Tt2:14; 3:14; Jms1:27; Dt24:19f; 27:19; Ps10:14,18; 146:9)
- M. PRAY FOR GRACE TO HELP (40; see Jms.5:16f; Heb.4:16)

CONCLUSION: FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLES! (9:19f, 27f & 32f /1C11:1; Phil.3:17; 4:9; thus 1Th1:6f; 1Tm4:12; Tt2:7)

Discussion questions:

Brethren, what shall wE do? (see Acts 2:37f)