

Pastor Paul

Acts 20:1-38

We know Paul as a great apostle, a pioneer missionary, a powerful evangelist, and a church planter. However, have we ever thought of Paul as a pastor?

- I. Paul's pastoral _____ (1-6)
- II. Paul's pastoral _____ (7-12)
- III. Paul's pastoral _____ (17-24)
 - A. Paul's _____ testimony (17-18)
 - B. Paul's _____ testimony (19-20)
- IV. Paul's pastoral _____ (25-31)
 - A. Watch over _____ (28a)
 - B. Watch over the _____ (27-31)
- V. Paul's pastoral _____ (32-38)

Take heed to yourselves, lest you live in those sins which you preach against in others, and lest you be guilty of that which daily you condemn. Will you make it your work to magnify God, and, when you have done, dishonor him as much as others? Will you proclaim Christ's governing power, and yet [have] contempt [for] it, and rebel yourselves? Will you preach his laws, and willfully break them? If sin be evil, why do you live in it? If it be not, why do you dissuade men from it? If it be dangerous, how dare you venture on it? If it be not, why do you tell men so? If God's threatenings be true, why do you not fear them? If they be false, why do you needlessly trouble men with them, and put them into such frights without a cause? Do you "know the judgment of God, that they who commit such things are worthy of death"; and yet will you do them? "Thou that teachest another, teachest thou not thyself?" Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, or be drunk, or covetous, art thou such thyself? "Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonorest thou God?" What! shall the same tongue speak evil that speakest against evil? Shall those lips censure, and slander, and backbite your neighbor, that cry down these and the like things in others? Take heed to yourselves, lest you cry down sin, and yet do not overcome it; lest, while you seek to bring it down in others, you bow to it, and become its slaves yourselves: "For of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought into bondage." "To whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." O brethren! it is easier to chide at sin, than to overcome it.

- Richard Baxter