

The Lord's Day Morning

December 11, 1949

“Paul Living in the Presence of God”
Acts 27:14-26

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Scripture Lesson: Acts 27:14-26

Text: Acts 27:23

Introduction:

1. Resume last Sunday morning sermon.
 - a. Prescription, “Living in Presence of God.”
 - b. No need fear
 - c. Turn troubles from defeat to glory
 - d. Measure up to responsibilities
2. Some would scoff at the idea.
 - a. He is simply laws of universe.
 1. No person
 - b. He is too great to be concerned with such individuals as we are.
 1. Our problems are so minor.
3. While we debate the possibility one can hardly await his turn to speak
 - a. What do you know about it?
 1. Never really tried
 - b. I know
 1. Might tell of Stephen the First
 2. Tell of others died smiling (martyr)
 - c. But tell of my own life
4. Let me introduce this one to you.
 - a. One who persecuted Christ and his followers.
 - b. But turned to follow Christ
 1. Few people have ever suffered as much for Christ's sake as he did.
 - c. He established many churches.
 - d. He wrote 12 or 13 letters that have seen included in Holy Writ.
 - e. He was greatest Christian who has ever lived.
5. Let him tell you something of his life.
 - I. Times when Christ appeared to him
 1. Acts 9:3-11 – on road to Damascus
 - a. Talked to Him and asked Him what He would have him do.
 2. Acts 16:6-10 – appeared to guide
 - a. Not go to Bithynia; forbidden to preach in Asia
 3. Acts 18:9-10 – at Corinth
 - a. Wicked city

- b. Immoral
- c. Idolatrous
- d. vs. 9-10 God appeared to Paul
 - 1. Be not afraid
- 4. Acts 23:11 – while in prison in Jerusalem
- 5. Acts 27:23 – on sea during storm
- 6. 2 Timothy 4:16-17 – while on trial in Rome only God stood with him and strengthened Him

II. Look at results in life of Paul

- 1. Assurance of salvation
 - a. Abundance of mercy and grace
 - 1. Titus 3:5-6
 - b. Dr. Gossips description of abundance
 - 1. Tide coming in wave upon wave
 - c. 1 Timothy 1:14 – a faithful saying, etc.
 - 1. The chief of sinners
 - d. From time Paul saw Christ on road to Damascus had that assurance
- 2. He carried tremendous responsibility
 - a. Acts 26:15-18 – what a task
 - b. He went about it.
 - c. No task too difficult – Athens, Corinth, Rome
 - d. No sacrifice too great
 - 1. Beaten
 - 2. Imprisoned
 - 3. Hungry
 - 4. Shipwreck
 - e. Acts 26:19 – Not disobedient to heavenly vision
- 3. Fear not
 - a. Returned to Lystra and Derbe
 - b. Faced crowd in Athens
 - c. Preached before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa
 - d. Go to Rome
- 4. How faced trouble
 - a. At Philippi
 - 1. Sang at midnight
 - b. Imprisoned at Rome
 - 1. For me to live is Christ
 - 2. Philippians 1:20 – Christ may be magnified in my body whether it be by life or by death
 - c. 2 Corinthians 12:9 – thorn in the flesh
 - 1. My grace sufficient
- 5. Facing death
 - a. 2 Timothy 1:12
 - b. 2 Timothy 4:6

Conclusion

1. Surely none of us would argue with Paul
 - a. Regarding possibility
 - b. Regarding results
2. Let us determine that we are going to live in the presence of God also.