

Paul's Love for the Church

Acts 20:1-16

PART TWO

Introduction

A Pastor's Passion & Purpose: *Sanctification of the Saints*

"The care of all the churches" was Paul's greatest joy as well as his heaviest burden.

Galatians 4:16-17, 19-20

Romans 8:29

The modern churches' disinterest in sanctification

Sanctification is the primary, if not the exclusive business of the church and her pastors.

Titus 2:11-15

Our job is not to make people happy with the church, it's to make the saints holy to look like Christ.

"Sin" Gk *hamartia*: 'missing the mark.'

Colossians 1:28-29

The motivation for all sanctifying work is *love*.

2 Corinthians 2:4

"Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?" 2 Corinthians 11:29

2 Corinthians 7:3; 2 Corinthians 11:2; 2 Corinthians 11:11

Paul's change in tone is due to a change in his relationship to the law. The law no longer defines him.

"For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God." Galatians 2:19

As Saul formerly driven by forced compliance to the law of Moses. As Paul compelled by the love of Christ.

The commandments, once an external code of conduct, now an internal principle to follow Christ.

"love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10

There is a vast difference between legalism and love.

John 13:34-35

2 Corinthians 3:5-6

Previously driven by hate to tear them down, Paul is now driven by love to build them up.