

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: July 5, 2020

Title: "What to Take-Away From the Book of Acts"

Text: Acts 28:17-31

INTRODUCTION:

1. **Application #1:** The Providence of God (Rom. 8:28)
2. **Application #2:** The Rise of Replacement Theology
3. **Application #3:** The Interpretation of the Book of Acts. The importance of distinguishing the Prescriptive from the Descriptive.

THE _____ NATURE OF ACTS

1. What would the NT be _____ the book of Acts?
2. Not everything **described** in Acts is **prescribed** for the church!
When a biblical passage is only describing something, but is interpreted as prescribing something, it can lead to errant thinking and behavior.
 - A. Pentecostalism (1900 and 1906)
 - B. Charismatic Movement (1959)
 - C. "Third Wave" of HS (i.e., Signs & Wonders movement in 1980's)
 - D. The New Apostolic Reformation (2001)

CONTRIBUTION? Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!

- The great majority of folks involved in these movements are genuine believers who love the Lord.
 - The twentieth century has witnessed growing interest in and serious study of what the Bible teaches about the Holy Spirit.
 - These folks have produced some very fine CCM which we sing and have benefited from here at McCoy.
3. Two statements to guide us from, How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stewart (2014).

"Unless Scripture explicitly tells us we must do something, what is only narrative or described does not function in a normative way, nor should we expect it to. . . . As a rule, much of what occurs in the book of Acts is descriptive, while much of what is said in the New Testament Epistles is prescriptive. Acts is history; the Epistles are instruction."

THE PERMANENT _____ -- _____ FROM ACTS

Do you remember the 3 E's? These are the permanent take-aways for the "Acts 29" phase of church history (i.e., A.D. 62 to the present).

1. _____

A. The command is clear!

All four Gospels and the Book of Acts (1:8) and in the Epistles.
We must be crystal clear on our MESSAGE and our MISSION.

B. The challenge of the "Three-Open Prayer"

From Ron Hutchcraft's book: Called to Greatness: Becoming a Lifeline for Those Who Need Hope (Chicago: Moody Press, 2001).

1) Pray for Open _____ (see Col. 4:3)

Opportunities to give the Gospel.

a) Spontaneous ones

b) Planned ones

2) Pray for Open _____ (Eph. 6:19-20; Col. 4:4)

When God opens the door, it's time to "say something" (be bold)

3) Pray for Open _____ (Acts 16:14; 2 Cor. 4:3-6)

Responsiveness to the good news we share!

2. _____: Serving in the power of the Holy Spirit in us!

"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD Almighty."

3. _____: I'm talking here about _____!

A. It is commanded in the NT Epistles (cp. Phil. 2:17-18; 3:1; 4:4)

B. It is _____ (cp. Neh. 8:10)

C. It is a _____ of the Spirit (cp. Gal. 5:16, 22, 23)

"Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh"