

OUTLINE  
August 31, 2008

*Living For A Mission*  
"Paul's Last Words"  
Acts 20

Paul said four things that we should all want to be said of us:

I. Paul served with no regard to personal cost. (Reference Acts 20:17-21)

- A. He was not a "one sermon" wonder.
- B. He spoke all the words of life.

II. Paul put Jesus Christ first in everything.

- A. He made his choice to follow Jesus.

*"And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me."*  
(Acts 20:22-23)

- B. He made choices to finish well.

When is it hard to finish?

- When we have been hurt.
- When we get tired.
- When we are divided.

- C. He made choices to be faithful.

*"But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."* (Acts 20:24)

III. Paul always spoke the truth in love.

*"and indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God."* (Acts 20:25-27)

- A. Paul sounded the alarm.
- B. He was a confident warrior.

*"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."* (Hebrews 4:12-13)

IV. Paul was a giver, not a taker.

*"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"* (Acts 20:33-35)