
Sermon Text Discussion Notes 3/11/2018

Acts 21:27-23:11 - "Three Things Every Christian Should Expect" by Drew Hunter

Overview

This text covers the plight of Paul as he faces persecution, suffering, and near death as he follows after Christ and gives testimony to how Jesus saved him. His speaking out about the grace shown to him by Christ gets him into life-threatening trouble as he faces an angry mob that seeks to take his life. These occurrences parallel the suffering and persecution Christ faced in his ministry here on earth and echo the words Jesus spoke to his followers, warning us that we will certainly face trouble in this world. Jesus' encouragement to his followers is that we should be:

- 1) Constantly in trouble (21:27-35)
- 2) Completely fearless (21:37-23:10)
- 3) Deeply comforted (23:11)

As we follow after Christ, we will know the great joy that can come only from him in the midst of such trials and persecution.

Quotations

"Jesus promised his disciples three things – they will be completely fearless, absurdly happy, and in constant trouble." -FR Maltby

Understanding & Application

1) In the amount of time you have been a Christ-follower in your life, has it gone as you had expected? What persecution you've experienced has been the most difficult to endure?

2) What people (nations, people groups, or individuals) in the world are being persecuted? How will you pray for them specifically?

3) Do you see suffering as walking in Christ's footsteps and as an opportunity to know him more deeply?

4) How was Paul encouraged by the suffering Christ endured? How can you likewise be encouraged?

5) Who in your small group (or family/neighborhood/office) is currently facing suffering? How can you be an encouragement to them?