

Saul 2 Paul – A Man of Purpose

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – July 9, 2017

[2 Cor 11:23b-28](#)

23... I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. 24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. 27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

Fulfilling our God given purpose...

1. MEANS SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND BRINGING HIM GLORY

Acts 5:42

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, [the apostles] never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 9:18, 20

18 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. 20 At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

Paul's Journeys:

- 1st journey (Acts 13-14)
- 2nd journey (Acts 15-18)
- 3rd journey (Acts 18-21)

Fulfilling our God given purpose...

2. SOMETIMES INVOLVES SUFFERING FOR HIS SAKE

Acts 9:15-17

15 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

Fulfilling our God given purpose...

3. HAS IT'S REWARDS

PLEASES GOD

Matt 25:23

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

BLESSES OTHERS

2 Cor 5:17

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

ETERNAL LIFE

2 Tim 4:5-8

5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. 6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.