

# 3 Main Focuses of Paul's Message to Believers

1. Paul reviews the PAST vs18-21.

2. Paul discusses the PRESENT vs22-27.

3. Paul warns about the FUTURE vs28-38.

## 3 Main Focuses of Paul's Present Circumstances and Ministry

1. Paul's big problem.

2. How Paul responded in a godly way to that big problem.

3. Three reasons why he was able to respond in a godly way.

#### Acts 20:22-24

"And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. 24 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."

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- 2. How Paul responded in a godly way to that big problem.
  - He didn't allow it to MOVE him.
- 3. Three reasons why he was able to respond in a godly way.
  - 1. He valued his relationship and ministry for Jesus more then his own life.

### 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. 25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown."

#### Hebrews 12:1–3

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls."



#### Circumstances and Ministry

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- 3. Three reasons why he was able to respond in a godly way.
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    - then his own life.
  - 2. He cared more about finishing the race God gave
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# 1 Corinthians 4:2 "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful."

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#### Acts 20:25-27

"And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God."

#### John 15:13

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."

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