

I. Obedience to the Lord

- A. Obedience is to be public
- B. Obedience is to be Christlike

II. A preacher's boast

- A. Holding fast to the word of life
- B. The day of Christ
- C. So that ... I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain (see Philippians 2:13; 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; 2 Corinthians 1:14)
- D. Paul does not want his ministry to be in vain (Galatians 2:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:5)
- E. Paul and the Suffering Servant in Isaiah (Isaiah 49:4, 6; 53:12)
- F. Labor in vain/run in vain (Psalm 73:13; 127:1-2)

III. The possibility of death

- A. Even if I am to be poured out (see 1:21-26)
- B. Upon the sacrificial offering of your faith (see Exodus 29:40-41)
- C. When we obey Christ out of belief in the gospel, we are offering up the kind of sacrifice that pleases him (1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 40:6-8)
- D. Are Christian pastors priests? (Romans 12:1)

IV. Rejoice!

- A. Four times: rejoice!
- B. Why is Paul so happy??
- C. Rejoicing in our own salvation
- D. Rejoicing in the salvation of others

V. Paul the Suffering Servant?

- A. But I thought Jesus was the Suffering Servant?
- B. We are all called to obedience that often seems fruitless
- C. We are all called to serve those who are near, and then go to those who are far
- D. We are all called to pour ourselves out for others, and it may mean giving up our lives
- E. Joy