

A.M. OUTLINE
6/3/2018

THE APOSTLE PAUL'S TEARS

(Acts 20:25 – 38)

THE OCCASIONS FOR PAUL'S TEARS:

1. (Romans 9:1-3) “ ... I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart”

(v3) Paul uses a hypothetical expression to illustrate his frustration with his own people.

He adds an explanation: (Philippians 3:1-11; Romans 10:1-4)

We, too, lament the spiritual condition of many in our nation who heed not the gospel.

2. (2 Corinthians 2:4) “ ... I wrote to you, with many tears, ... “

When Paul wrote his first letter to them, it was with loving tears to instruct them.

When we correct one another, it is out of love, not that we love correcting.

3. (Acts 20:31) “ ... I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears”

In this speech, Paul reviewed 36-months of preaching to them in Ephesus.

Preachers have the charge: (2 Timothy 4:2) “Preach the word ... convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching”

4. (Philippians 3:18) “ ... I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, ... “

Paul refers to some who are “enemies of the cross” - (v17) those who did not follow Paul's teaching and example; and, (v19) those who “set their mind on earthly things.”

“told you often” - don't stop warning, exhorting, and instructing.

5. (Acts 20:18-20) “ ... serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials”

Paul's life was in danger many times, and he was not in tears being fearful for his life; rather, the opposition hindering the gospel caused his tears.

In our generation, in America, we have a “Freedom of Religion” Amendment.

Pray that we may continue to preach without fear of molestation.

CLOSE: (2 Cor. 12:15) “And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls”