

SOME THOUGHTS ON HAVING A GOOD DAY

Scripture: Acts 28:11-31

Introduction:

- A. Paul had just set foot in Italy on his way to face the ruler of the world. He was a prisoner. He had just spent the winter shipwrecked on an island inhabited by heathen.**
- B. He has just been met by some brethren from Rome.**
- C. Just suppose someone spoke up and said, “Have a good day.”**
- D. What do you think Paul’s answer to that would have been? In a like condition, how would you have answered?**
- E. Some time back, I began to reply by saying, “I am working at it.”**
- F. Verse 15 sets forth Paul’s attitude that carried him forward into many good days and even good years.**
- G. Paul THANKED GOD AND TOOK COURAGE.**

I. PAUL THANKED GOD.

- A. Thanking God is a look into the past.**
 - 1. He thanked God for fulfilled prayers.**
 - a. The Roman Letter reveals Paul praying that God would bring him to Rome. (Romans 1:9-11; 15:29-33)**
 - b. God had answered those prayers – Paul was well on his way.**
 - c. Remembering how God has answered our prayers is a good way to start every day. This will help us have a good day.**
 - 2. Paul thanked God for fulfilled promises.**
 - a. On two occasions when the future was in doubt, God had spoken to Paul – “be of good cheer, Paul. For as thy has testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also in Rome” and “fear not, thou must be brought before Caesar.”**
 - b. Every day would be brightened is we would take time to thank God for all His promises knowing that He will fulfill them all in His good time and in His way.**
- B. Thanking God is a look into the future.**
 - 1. Paul could now thank God for the opportunity to preach the gospel in Rome for he was well on his way.**
 - 2. Should we not thank God for all the opportunities He provides us to witness to those around us and to help others preach the gospel around the world?**

C. Thanking God is a look at the present.

- 1. During the worse part of the storm, Paul had exhorted the people on board “to be of good cheer” and said, “there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am and whom I serve.”**
- 2. In the midst of a great storm, he knew God was present with him.**
- 3. Thanking God for being with us wherever we are and whatever is happening will help us have a good day.**

II. PAUL TOOK COURAGE.

A. Some brethren came from Rome to greet Paul with words of encouragement.

- 1. Took courage means that they cheered him which gave him boldness and confidence.**
- 2. This helped Paul have a good day.**

B. We all need an encouraging “pat on the back” at times. It can help us press on even in difficult times.

- 1. There was fireman who was high on a ladder trying to rescue a woman from certain death in burning building. He had a bad burn and was choking from the smoke. **SOMEONE DOWN BELOW SHOUTED, “You can’t do, come down.”** As he began to descend another voice shouted, **“GIVE HIM A CHEER.”** The crowd cheered him and he began climbing again and saved the woman.**
- 2. An old English pastor told of having a very bad day. Nothing was going right. He was down. A poor woman walked up and said, “God bless you, Brother Dale.” He asked her name and she replied, “ You don’t know me; but you will never know how much your sermons have helped me.” His day was turned around. He had a good day.**
- 3. I don’t remember much about John Brady who died a few year back, but this I do remember. I was not having a bad day, but my Sunday was made brighter when as he left services, John Brady with a big smile said, “God bless you, Brother Brooks.”**

III. PAUL NOT ONLY HAD A GOOD DAY, HE HAD SOME GOOD YEARS.

A. Thanking God gave Paul courage:

- 1. To be God's prisoner in Rome. Paul referred to himself as a prisoner of Jesus Christ and he said that "the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel, so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace and in all other places."**
- 2. To be God's preacher in Rome. Acts 28:23,24**
- 3. To be God's penman in Rome. Seven or more books of the Bible written by Paul were written in prison in Rome.**

B. Thanking God will also give us courage to do the good works God before ordained that we should do.

CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Is there any reason at all for us not having 365 good days in 2006?**
- B. If we will approach each day as Paul did, we will find it much easier to smile and say, "Thank you, yes I am having a good day."**