

## SERMON OUTLINE

Notes on Sermon from Acts 21:15–26, The Christian Leader Walks in Step with God

Context: Paul had been commissioned by the elders at Jerusalem to take the gospel to the Gentiles (Gal 2:9-10); now, he returns some 20 years later to report to them on the completion of that ministry, bringing with him 8 Gentile converts (Acts 20:4, including Luke) with a collection from the Gentile churches for the poor in Jerusalem (Rom 15:25-27)

[1] You walk in step with God by Being Accountable (16-19)

A. Paul makes Himself accountable to the elders at Jerusalem

B. You are not only accountable to God (Rom 14:12) but also to leaders who also must give account (Heb 13:17), so are you?

[2] You walk with God by Being Reputable (20-21)

A. Paul has a mis-informed reputation that needs correcting

B. A Christian leader needs a good reputation (1 Tim 3:7), so what's yours?

[3] You walk with God by being Compliant (22-26)

A. The elders suggest a way Paul as a Jew can be compliant to Jewish customs, by a "Nazarite vow" (Num 6:1-21)

B. Paul is compliant to his teaching to become a Jew to the Jews (1 Cor 9:20; Romans 14)

Closing application: You are to follow the steps of Jesus because others are following you! (1 Cor 11:1)

**“Knowing Christ and Making Him Known”**

**“Shearer is a Church committed to serving the Triune God by loving Him and others and sharing the good news of Christ to all people.”**

# SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

**Greetings!** Please take a moment to greet those sitting around you and be sure to put your cell-phone on silent mode. There are staffed nursery facilities for children under 4, plus a Children's Church after the Kid's Bible Chat and a cry room where a monitor shows the worship service. Overflow seating in the Fellowship Hall is available where the service is shown on large screens, and if you need to leave the service, please use the side aisles so as not to block the view of those watching the live stream videoing.

## Welcome, Right Hand of Fellowship and Announcements

Chris Cleaveland

Prelude Please use this time to "Be still and know that I am God". (Ps. 46:10)

### WE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

- Call to Worship From Psalm 27:1–6 (NKJ) Led by Ruling Elder Dennis Drennen

**L:** "The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?"

**All:** "When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell.

**L:** Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war should rise against me, In this I will be confident.

**All:** "One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

**L:** For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

**All:** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD."

- Chorus of Worship "**Whom Shall I Fear** "(God of Angel Armies) By Chris Tomlin

1] You hear me when I call / You are my morning song

Though darkness fills the night / It cannot hide the light: Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy / Underneath my feet

You are my sword and shield / Though troubles linger still: Whom shall I fear?

[Chorus]:

**I know who goes before me / I know who stands behind: The God of angel armies Is always by my side**

**The one who reigns forever / He is a friend of mine / The God of angel armies Is always by my side**

2] My strength is in Your name / For You alone can save / You will deliver me / Yours is the victory/

Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? (to Chorus)

And nothing formed against me shall stand / You hold the whole world in Your hands

I'm holding on to Your promises: You are faithful, You are faithful (Repeat) [to Chorus]

- Confession of Faith From the Westminster Larger Catechism

**Q. 189** What does the preface of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

**A.** The preface of the Lord's Prayer (contained in these words, Our Father, which art in heaven,) teaches us, when we pray, to draw near to God with confidence of his fatherly goodness, and our interest therein; with reverence, and all other child-like dispositions, heavenly affections, and due apprehensions of his sovereign power, majesty, and gracious condescension: as also, to pray with and for others."

\* Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn of Worship # 151

"A Mighty Fortress' Is Our God"©

### WE PRAY TO THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

Pastoral Prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13 KJV)

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

### WE LISTEN TO THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

\* Memory verse for today, "Paul ... reported in detail what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry." (Acts 21:19 NIV)

\* Memory verse for next Lord's Day, "The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will." (Acts 22:14 NKJ)

- Scripture Reading of Old Testament background of Paul's Vow (Numbers 6:1–8)

### WE GIVE TO THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

- Song of Assurance # 368 "He Lives" (Ab)

Receiving of God's Tithe and our Offerings

Offertory

- Song of Praise # 188 "Praise Him, All Ye Little Children" (D)

### WE LEARN FROM THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

Children's Bible Chat by April Pruitt

Children Ages 4–7 are invited to go to Children's Church with Janice Pruitt and Lori Pruitt.

Special Music: "I Sing Praises"

Sermon on Acts 21:15–26, "The Christian Leader Walks in Step with God"

### WE RESPOND TO THE GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

\*Hymn of Response # 676

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" (F)

\*Blessing and Benediction from Isaiah 41:10, 13 (ESV)

The Lord says, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.... For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I am the one who helps you."

Song of Parting # 426

"Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds, Is like to that above."