

A Three-Fold Mission Statement

Rom. 1:14-16

- I Am Debtor...
 - “I am under obligation” (NASB) – something I owe; bound by duty.
 - Paul understood that he was indebted. He had an obligation to God and man that he was bound to pay.
 - This is one reason he was doing what he was doing.
 - He was under obligation to men without respect to culture, ethnicity or intellectual status.
 - Greeks, barbarians, wise, foolish
 - Why was Paul obligated?
 - He was first obligated to God.
 - Ps. 100:3 → Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
 - I Cor. 6:19-20 → 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.
 - He was a debtor to the Gentiles. (Acts 9:15-16; 26:15-19)
 - “I am debtor”. Is that part of our mission statement? What do our actions reveal?
 - As Christians, we need to see ourselves as under obligation.

- I Am Ready...
 - “Ready” → eager, willing.
 - The willingness, eagerness and zeal that springs from the recognition of obligation.
 - Rom. 1:15 → “...as much as in me is...”
 - With all that I have; with every fiber of my being.
 - Acts 20:22-24 → “...neither count I my life dear unto myself so that I might finish my course with joy...”
 - The readiness of the early church. (Acts 4:29-31; 5:40-2; 8:1-4)
 - Phil. 2:30 → 30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.
 - Jn. 4:34 → “my meat is to do the will of him that sent me ...”
 - We need to have that same eagerness, willingness to fulfill our obligation. There are many distractions and much that vies for our attention.

- I Am Not Ashamed...
 - Paul lived in a world that was not so unlike our day and age. Much resistance and opposition to the gospel. (Rom. 1:18-23; I Cor. 1:18; Act 17:32; 14:19; I Thess. 2:2)
 - Many factors could have led Paul to be “ashamed”; only needed one to make him unashamed. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation.
 - We should never be ashamed of that message or who we are. We should feel our sense of duty and be eager, willing and ready to carry it out.

