

Our Purpose In Uncertain Times

Acts 15:13-15

Introduction:

I. God's Priority For The Church.

A. We Are To Continue What Jesus Started.

B. Seven Key Statements In The Gospels Where Jesus States His Purpose In Coming.

1. Matthew 9:13

4. Luke 9:56

2. Matthew 18:11

5. Luke 19:10.

3. Matthew 20:28 (Clearly we cannot give our life for a ransom for many, so that aspect of these statements is unique to Jesus)

6. John 3:17

7. John 10:10

C. The Stated Purpose Of God In Christ Was To Save The Lost.

II. God's Providence In The Church.

A. God May Intervene Directly To Purify The Church So It Is More Effective In Gospel Witness – Acts 5:1-4.

B. God May Protect His Servants In Supernatural Ways – Acts 5:17-32.

C. God May Preserve Or Deliver His People Through The Aid From Our Enemies – Acts 5:33-40.

D. God May Not Intervene On Behalf Of His Servant – Acts 7:54-60.

E. God Is Capable Of Working In People We Would Never Expect – Acts 7:58-8:3.

F. God Uses Persecution To Spread The Gospel – Acts 8:3-5.

G. God May Direct Us To Serve In Unlikely Places – Acts 8:26-40.

H. God May Intervene In The Lives Of People In Unexpected And Dramatic Ways – Acts 9:1-8.

I. God May Protect Some And Allow Others To Die For Christ – Acts 12:1-19.

J. God Can Use Human Disagreements To Further The Gospel Ministry – Acts 15:36-44.

K. God May Close A Door Of Ministry That Seems Logical To Us, Only To Redirect Our Ministry – Acts 16:6-10.

L. God May Allow Us To Suffer Wrongfully In Order To Bring Us Into Contact With Certain Sinners – Acts 16:16-34.

M. God Is In Sovereign Control Of The Elements And Uses Them For His Purposes – Acts 27-28.

There will be many more storms in the lives of believers. May we be wise and discerning as Paul was. Note his actions;

1. Acts 27:9-13 – In time of prosperity – _____.
2. Acts 27:11-26 – In time of despair – _____.
3. Acts 27:27-32 – In time of Crisis – _____.
4. Acts 27:33-38 – In time of confusion – _____.
5. Acts 27:39-44 – In time of waiting – _____.