Do Not Keep Silent

Ken Chapman · Acts 18:1–17

INTRODUCTION

- We all get in trouble saying something we shouldn't have said. Or talking when we shouldn't talk.
- I want to talk about another extreme misuse of the tongue. And that is not talking when you should.
- Do not be afraid, but speak. And do not keep silent. For I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you. For I have many people in this city.

1 Christianity Is Rational

Acts 18:4; Acts 17:2; Acts 8:26–29

- We first learn in verse 4 that Christianity is rational.
- He reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath and persuaded both Jews and Greeks. He reasoned, and he persuaded them. That's how the gospel works.
- The gospel is an intellectual message. It is delivered through words and through reason and the rationale that attacks or addresses the mind.
- God has always used earthly messengers to impart the gospel.
- God has chosen not to work directly and miraculously upon the heart of the unbeliever. But to send an emissary, to send a messenger, to reason.
- Emotion and intellect are not mutually exclusive. One should lead to the other.

2 We Might Be Surprised Who Will Accept the Truth

Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9–11

- We might be surprised who will end up accepting the truth.
- Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household.
- Many of the Corinthians hearing, believed, and were baptized.
- We want to cherry pick those to whom the gospel should be presented.
- The same gospel is the power of God to salvation. It's still living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword.
- And so let's not keep silent. And not be afraid.

3 Some Will Listen, but Some Won't

Acts 18:11–17

- That some will listen, but some won't. Isn't that kind of the way the book of Acts is written?
- For some reason, some people can't just pass on the gospel. They have to get angry. They have to oppose it. And sometimes violently so.
- There may come a day in our lifetime in which preaching the gospel out of love and concern for people's souls may be met with threats and violence.

- God give us the strength and the courage that we won't be afraid, and that we won't keep silent, but we'll speak.
- And we shouldn't be afraid. And we shouldn't keep silent.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **The question is, will we speak? Oh, we get in trouble sometimes speaking when we shouldn't. But let's never get in trouble for not speaking when we should.**

MY NOTES