

Giving up rights to serve the gospel

1 Corinthians 9:1-23 p. 928

- I. RIGHTS WHEN SERVING THE GOSPEL – PAUL HAD RIGHTS AS AN APOSTLE (1 CORINTHIANS 9:1-12a).
 - A. Paul had authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ (9:1-3).
 - B. Paul had the right to be paid and/or to be married (9:4-6).
 - C. Those who serve spiritually have the right to support (9:7-12a).
 - Illustration: Soldiers, farmers and oxen (7-9; Deuteronomy. 25:4).
 - Missionaries/pastors/workers who sow spiritually (10-12b; 1 Timothy 5:17-18).

- II. GIVING UP RIGHTS FOR THE GOSPEL – PAUL DID NOT UTILIZE HIS RIGHT TO BE PAID (1 CORINTHIANS 9:12b-23).
 - A. Paul refused the pay Jesus said is deserved (9:12b-14; Luke 10:7).
 - B. Paul was compelled by Christ to preach the gospel, and do it free to illustrate the free gift of salvation (9:15-18).
 - C. Paul made concessions about lesser things to serve the greater cause of the gospel (9:19-23).