

THE
WHY SHOULD I
SERIES

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WHY SHOULD I BE A WITNESS?”

SERMON SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED KEYWORD:

CHRISTIANITY, WITNESS, EXAMPLE, MARTYR

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Acts 2:41-47

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Acts 2:41-47

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. ⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Why You Should Take a Reasonable Look at Your Church

PRACTICAL LESSONS ABOUT THE LIFE, THE MINISTRY AND
THE INFLUENCE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

*“...praising God **and having favor with all the people.**
And the Lord added to the church daily
those who were being saved.”*

REMEMBERING BACK SEVERAL WEEKS AGO,
WE HAD A TEACHING ON EVANGELISM. THE IMPORTANT THING TODAY IS THAT YOU
UNDERSTAND THAT BEING A WITNESS AND EVANGELISM ARE TWO TOTALLY DIFFERENT
ASPECTS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

**To Evangelize is to Get the Word Out
To Witness or to Be a Witness is What we Are in Life**

I Can do the Work of an Evangelist and Evangelize,
But My Witness is Who I Really Am.

The Word Witness

Greek 3144 martus (mar'-toos);
one who gives record, testimony. To give evidence of a fact. To be
the bearer of accounts and records regarding another.
To give report. An eyewitness

WHY SHOULD I BE A WITNESS?

1.) Because that's what I am

As a Christian – God Lives the Redeemed Life Through Me
I Am Not a Cultist, Not a New Age-er,

Acts 11:26b

***...So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a
great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.***

Christ-like or Little Christ's

1a.) I'm a witness to my Past

*Then those who **gladly received his word** were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them...*

>>>>>>>>>>> Acts 2:38-40 <<<<<<<<<<<<<

*Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ "For the promise is to you and to your children, **and to all who are afar off**, as many as the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "**Be saved from this perverse generation.**"*

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him.

A Dead Walk

*And you He **made alive**, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.*

Therefore remember that you, once **Gentiles in the flesh**-- who are called *Uncircumcision* by what is called the *Circumcision* made in the flesh by hands-- 12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

*And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, **and have redeemed us** to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,*

WHY SHOULD I BE A WITNESS ?

BECAUSE MY PAST HAS SURRENDERED TO HIS VICTORY

1b.) I'm a witness to my Present

I Give Testimony / a Record or Report

AWARE OF:

WHAT GOD KEEPS ME FROM

Our Lives are Now Directly Held
and Ordered by God!

**“Every more you make, every breath you take,
He'll be watching you... for the good.”**

It's What the Apostle Peter Meant When...

1 Peter 1:3-6

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ **who are kept by the power of God** through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,*

It's What Jesus Meant When...

John 17:11

*"Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, **keep through Your name** those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.*

It's What Jesus Meant When...

John 10:27-30

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, -- they follow Me. (It's a package deal, a combo) ²⁸ "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. ³⁰ "I and My Father are one."

You Are A Salvation Sandwich

**ALSO, NOW AWARE OF:
WHAT GOD HAS FOR ME**

1 Peter 1:3 LTB

*All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; for it is his boundless mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again so that we are now members of God's own family. **Now we live in the hope of eternal life because Christ rose again from the dead.***

Nearly 3,000 Years Ago

God Said;

*"I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of **peace** and not of evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**.*

1 John 3:3

*And everyone who has **this hope** in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

By Being a Witness to My World

WHY SHOULD I BE A WITNESS ?

1c.) I'm a witness to my Future

That is, My Current Life, Life-Issues, Life-Style Is a Good Indicator of My Future – what's to come!

I Can Know A lot About *My Future*;
Based Upon *My Life* – Right Now

From the Living Bible - Galatians 6:7-9

Don't be misled; remember that you can't ignore God and get away with it: a man will always reap just the kind of crop he sows! ⁸ If he sows to please his own wrong desires, he will be planting seeds of evil and he will surely reap a harvest of spiritual decay and death; but if he plants the good things of the Spirit, he will reap the everlasting life that the Holy Spirit gives him. ⁹ And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.

What You Believe - Matters

BECAUSE BELIEFS FORM A FOUNDATION.
A FOUNDATION DETERMINES YOUR FUTURE

JESUS SAID, A FOUNDATION MATTERS

Matthew 7:24-27

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ "Now everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

Our Future is Secure in Christ

1 Corinthians 3:10-11

According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Foundational, Future Verse

Jude 1:24

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

Exceeding Joy GRK 20 agalliasis (ag-al-lee'-as-is);
Gladness of heart. An abundance of joy, more than enough joy. Joy in excess.

Acts 2:46

*So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with **gladness and simplicity of heart**,
(otherwise known as **EXCEEDING JOY**)*

WHY SHOULD I BE A WITNESS ?

1.) Because that's what I am

1a.) I'm a witness to my Past

1b.) I'm a witness to my Present

1c.) I'm a witness to my Future

End of Part One