

### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### Romans 1:1.

–In the apostle Paul, we see a man who is **abandoned to the Lord and His calling.**

•**1 Cor. 11:1:** “*Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*”

•His life became **a pattern for all believers** to follow...he was **a spiritual father to others to the degree he was a voluntary bondservant/son to the Father.**



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### Romans 1:1.

–What were the **dynamics surrounding his abandonment to this call?**

•**General calling** – choosing to be a **bondservant of Christ/child – ANSWERING the call.**

•**Special calling** – **apostolic ministry/young man – CARRYING the call.**

•**High calling** – **separated unto the gospel/spiritual father – BECOMING the call.**

–Since Paul is a pattern, **Abba will prepare us using these same general principles.**



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### The General Calling:

–Every believer is called to be a **love-slave who voluntarily yields their rights and accepts a new government over them.**

–When Paul encountered the Lord Jesus on the Damascus Road, **he became one of the CALLED.**

–**In his calling, true conversion, he asked two things:**

•“**Who are you, Lord?**”

•“**What will you have me do?**”



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**1 Tim. 1:16:** “However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.”

–Paul says he was **called to be a pattern for all believers.**

#### •**Sin Offering vs. Whole Burnt Offering.**

–The sin offering **restored relationship by dealing with sin and its effects.**

–The whole **burnt offering was given to access intimate fellowship and purpose** (see Exodus 29).

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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### **Sin offering vs. Whole Burnt Offering** (cont.):

–Although his encounter and repentance effected forgiveness, **his relationship with the Lord STARTED WITH complete dedication overshadowing it** (he immediately gave himself as a whole burnt offering).

•If we have truly met the LORD Jesus, we will be Christ-centered and not self-centered in orientation.

•Paul's immediate response was not, “Praise the Lord! I'm forgiven, at peace and going to heaven.”

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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### **Sin offering vs. Whole Burnt Offering** (cont.):

–Paul's definition of true conversion was not just forgiveness, but a **voluntary giving of himself as a whole burnt offering unto the Lord** (this was Jesus' lifestyle with Abba).

•Man gets forgiveness, pardon and cleansing, but **Paul's pattern is stating what GOD GETS – it's Christ-centered from the beginning.**

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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### Sin offering vs. Whole Burnt Offering (cont.):

–We are reaping the consequences of decades (or longer) *of man-centered preaching and “conversions”*.

•Churches are now *built around how people can be served instead of calling and training disciples in how God can be served with the whole heart*.

–We have *become man-centered and not Christ-centered* (an antichrist spirit – 2 Thess. 2).



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### The Pauline Pattern:

–*Paul is immediately alive to Christ’s LORDSHIP, and can but choose to surrender to the King or reject Him as LORD*. (This is the general calling to ALL believers).

–There was *no trying to align the KING and scripture with his agenda, lifestyle, preferences, comfort, ad infinitum*.

•Everything in PAUL had to radically change to align with the KING.

▶ Remember, this is just the GENERAL calling!



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

#### The Pauline Pattern:

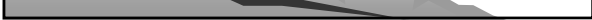
–Under the Old Covenant, *there were two classes of servants:*

•The Bondservant – *who had no rights; no recourse when wronged; no wages, etc.*

•The Hired Servant – *who could demand all the above.*

–In Phil. 2:5-10, *Paul gives us THE picture of a bondservant in the way Jesus lived.*

▶ *When did a bondservant tell their lord what, when, how, etc, he or she was going to do?*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–*Until we enter this general calling as voluntary bondservants, we can never enter the special or specific callings.*

–Only *after Paul embraced the cross and the training in his general calling was he allowed to move in his special calling – apostolic ministry.*

- He *first developed as a servant and teacher in the church at Antioch for several years.*
- He *became a man under authority.*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–At the right time *while fulfilling the general calling*, the *Holy Spirit awakened the individual and the leaders over him, and then he was SENT.*

- There was no putting oneself into ministry.*
- They were *sent forth with God's approval, grace, authority and presence.*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–Every true believer feels called, but *until we come under the King's government as bondservants, we're not ready!*

–One of the greatest mistakes the church keeps making is *seeing great need and running out immediately to fill it before being trained and prepared.*

- It's *not wrong to want to help!*
- But it *becomes chaotic and possibly suicidal to go into the demonized harvest unprepared!*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–Paul never moves from the general calling as a servant to his special calling as an apostle until the Holy Spirit sees the training complete and mature.

- Deep *intimacy and friendship with the Lord*, and the *training of the soul and appetites* must happen to be *able to withstand what Paul had to endure!*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–Being a *pioneer* is to be the *tip of the spear and to experience the rage of the enemy, and the reproach and sufferings of the Lord.*

- The supreme effect of this voluntary servanthood is *you EMBODY your message – you BECOME it.*
- Anything less is theory devoid of true spiritual authority.*



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### Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

**The Pauline Pattern:**

–Paul *knew he would bear the brunt of the battle and kept pressing on and literally became the embodiment of the crucified, resurrected Christ.*



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## Purpose and Destiny – Part 3

### The Pauline Pattern

**-1 Cor. 4:9-13:** *“For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.”*



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