

# Paul Rejoices Over Preaching by Enemies

by John R. Rice

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*The furtherance of the gospel is the main thing, and we should rejoice when others preach the gospel, even if they do not agree with us on everything.*

**Duration:** 30:02

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:33, Philippians 1:12-18

**Topics:** "Gospel Preaching", "Great Commission"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of preaching the gospel as the main purpose of a Christian's life. He quotes Jesus' words that the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost, emphasizing that salvation and getting people saved is the primary focus of the Great Commission. The preacher also mentions the need to defend the faith and encourage believers to live according to the Lord's teachings. He highlights the example of the apostle Paul, who prioritized preaching the gospel over other activities such as baptism. Overall, the sermon emphasizes the central role of preaching the gospel in fulfilling God's purpose for believers.

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## Transcript

Will you breathe upon this poor servant, thou hast chosen the weak to confound the strong. Thou hast chosen there those that are not to confound those that are. Lord bless them, I thank you for it.

Amen. You found the place, Philippians chapter 1, verses 12 to 18. Paul is in jail over in Rome, and he's telling his people about the beloved people at Philippi, where he'd been before, and where he'd been in jail, and then delivered.

But I would that you should understand, brethren, that the things which have happened unto me have fallen out, rather, unto the furtherance of the gospel, so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace and in all other places. And many of the brethren of the Lord, watched in confidence by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Some indeed preach Christ's end, even of end in strife, and some also of goodwill.

And one preached Christ's end of contention, not sincerely supposing to add affliction to my bonds, but rather of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the gospel. But then, notwithstanding, never wavering whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached, and I therein do rejoice, yea, and I will rejoice. Paul's in jail.

Poor old Paul. Hard times. Well, these last days, Paul came to attend.

You can have revival now. Everything's against you. It's a hard place in Rome, center of the world.

World, center of the world, heathen religion, too. And besides that, you're in jail. Man keeps you one guard there, and all you can see is a torturing guard, and they can let you get out here on the street and stay with you and so on.

No, no. No hard times for Paul. Everywhere with Paul is a good place to preach.

There weren't any hard times when a man's in the will of God. Paul had already written Rome in Romans 15, 29, and said, And I'm sure when I come to you, I'll come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. Sure? In jail.

And preached it all the time. If it's in the first imprisonment, he was in his own hired house with a soldier to guard him, and evidently had chains on him, he said, these bonds. In 2 Timothy 1, 16, Paul said to a certain man, he was not ashamed of my chains, my chains.

So old Paul, with a chain clanking on him and a soldier standing by to guard him and take him back to his place, and he preached out in the neighborhood. And when he wrote this book and finished it up, he said, There's a household of faith. All these Christians, they send you greetings, especially of the household of Caesar.

What do you mean? Victorian guard, the capital guard, those men that are keeping them. Paul Adam got saved, they say. And now Paul brings him right back to Philippi.

Tell them we love them and we're so glad that you came to preach to us. And so they sent greetings too. Paul's a prisoner in jail, but a great preacher.

He's not down in the mouth. He's not whipped. What a lesson this is for preachers anywhere.

And so Paul preached, and some of the other fellows said, I'd be ashamed to preach, but if Paul can do it, and chains on him, and a soldier to guard him, and got to march him back and lock him up at night. Well, if Paul can preach, I can too. And so they set out to preach.

Then said, that's old Paul, he's given me courage. I'm going to preach it too. And so they did all over the town.

And not only, he said, in the palace, but in all places. Boy, they heard the gospel. Every time Paul heard, he said, glory to God.

The most preaching in the truth. But wait a minute. Not only those good Christians, not only those timid fellows got some boldness, not only young preacher boys.

You know when somebody's preaching in the fire of God's own, and somebody else catches it. Yes, if Brother Tom was a preacher here in the fire of God, so many fellows going out to the jail, and going out to other churches, and so on. And so they did, but that was long.

If somebody says, that big shot Paul, everybody thinks he's hot. I don't think he's hot. I'm preaching as good as he can.

Well, I don't care. There must be some kind of gimmick. He's just giving out all these suckers, or something else to the people.

And so you get all these gimmicks together. Yeah, but I'm going to preach too, they said. I'm just going to preach to Paul.

Some of envy, and some of strife, and some hoping it'd make Paul mad. And they preached the gospel. And Paul said, praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord. I'm just saying everywhere. So it was a gospel business.

And Paul rejoiced, because these people, his enemies, and some of them are not in favor of Paul at all. Well, some of these people are preaching the gospel. Paul said, isn't that wonderful? I'm so glad these people are preaching the gospel.

Now consider, will you, first of all, this, that with Paul, the furtherance of the gospel is the main thing. The furtherance of the gospel. He said, what happened in jail? He's mad.

Praise the Lord. They're getting more people preaching the gospel, because the old Paul out here preaching shames on them. And isn't that wonderful? Paul, praise the Lord.

I rejoice that the gospel is preached. The furtherance of the gospel. Now, that was first with Paul, and that's what he's talking about now.

The first thing. All right, so then here's some people that don't agree with Paul and everything, and they're preaching too. Isn't that a strange thing? And so some preach the gospel.

Then there's strife, and Paul was mad. That's right. Some of them preached it without any intent to please Paul, or said, I don't believe in him.

It may be that some of them didn't agree with Paul's doctrine. It wouldn't be surprising if people differed with Paul. They did, you know.

Don't you remember over in Galatia? He preached the gospel and got so many people saved? Come in, and some people did. Then God said, you've got to be circumcised. You've got to keep the Jewish Sabbath.

You've got to keep the ceremonial law if you're going to be saved, and so on. So it differs. Some of them said, well, you like Paul.

I like Peter, that old blockbuster. He's my preacher. Some of them said, oh, it's Apollos.

Oh, he's mighty in the scriptures. Apollos is the one I like. And some liked Paul.

Then some said, to hell with all the preachers. I'm just for Jesus Christ. And so they had division and strife, you know.

And so they didn't all agree with Paul, but they preached the gospel. Paul heard it and he said, praise the Lord. Amen.

Praise the Lord. Preaching the gospel. Soldiers saved.

Paul was glad. Even Paul was glad when folks that weren't the right kind and weren't on his side and weren't as separated as he was, when they preached the gospel, did Paul like it? Yes. Paul said, praise the Lord.

I can just see him shaking those old chains. He said, praise the Lord. He gave up the gospel.

Burn into the gospel. That's what I want. It's over.

I'm glad that anybody preached the gospel. Are you? Are you? Are you glad Oral Roberts preached in the gospel? Are you glad Billy Graham preached in the gospel? Are you glad that Pentecostal people who talk in tongues preached the gospel? Huh? Well, Paul evidently was. He just was glad about that.

Yes, so when Paul heard it, Paul said, praise the Lord. Preaching the gospel. Let's see, somebody told Paul, somebody said, Paul said, Paul, you know what, there's some of these evangelicals preaching the gospel.

Well, what's the matter? Well, they make their denominations and they don't come out like they ought to. Well, Paul said, they preach the gospel. They get people saved.

Yes, they preach the blood of Jesus and get people saved. They say they are and so on. Well, Paul said, praise the Lord.

That should be all right, then. I'm glad of that. Praise the Lord.

And somebody else came and said, Paul, you know what, Corinth, all those tongues people you got after in the 14th chapter of 1 Corinthians, some of those got over here too, and some of them preaching the gospel. And Paul said, do you believe the Bible? Yes, sir. And you get people saved? Yes, sir.

Paul, they preach the blood. Oh, they make a pretty noisy about it and hollering around a little bit and holding their hands. But to get people saved, Paul said, praise the Lord.

That's wonderful. Do you think so? Yeah. And Paul heard they said, they're preaching the gospel.

And some people said, well, I don't believe Paul's all he ought to be anyway, and so I don't agree with everything. But they preach the gospel. And somebody said, now, listen, let's show that old guy.

Let's get a bigger crowd than he does, and let's get out of here. And so someone preached the gospel in pretense. Paul said, in pretense? Well, that's too bad.

But did they get anybody saved? Did they preach the gospel? Among these heathen Mormons, they're getting people saved? Yes, they're preaching the gospel. Praise the Lord, Paul said. That's wonderful.

I rejoice in that, the furtherance of the gospel. That's the main thing. You see that? So it was evident with Paul.

Ah, when others brought strife and so on, he did. Now, Paul preached. He was sound in doctrine.

He preached against the pulse of Christians. He didn't compromise. Oh, no.

Oh, boy, how sharp he was on the gospel. And he wrote over to the people of Galatia and said, if any kind of come to you and preach another gospel, then I'll preach to you. He said, let him be accursed.

Wait a minute. He said, if I have to preach so much, and if an angel from heaven comes and preaches another gospel, let him be damned and cursed in hell if he doesn't preach the same gospel. Oh, Paul's strong in the gospel, you know.

Yes, Paul said, let it be accursed. And Paul brought them out over Corinth by the divisions, and because they got drunk at the Lord's Supper, and because they had a man living in sin with his mother-in-law, and because they went to law with one another, and because they all divided up over the dietary care rules, some are health faddish, and some said, I don't want to have anything to do with that. And some of them said, well, I don't believe in observing Easter and Christmas, and they fussed over that.

And Paul said, Paul straightened them out, but Paul still was glad that anybody preached the gospel. Are you? Are you? Ah, yes, sir. And so Paul was glad and rejoiced about that.

Oh, I'm for preaching the gospel. I don't think anybody who knows me and knows the sword of the Lord, any of this last 44 years, would say I haven't preached it plain and sharp and denounced sin, and I'm a little sad about this. Sometimes people read that, and not enough people cracking down on sin, so I've got to take the place of some of you lazybones and cowardly preachers that don't do it, and everybody thinks I'm a hellraiser and don't love anybody, and so on.

I'm sorry about that, but I'll tell you the truth is, I'm going to stand true. If I lose the last friend in the world, I'm going to stand true. But you can do that and love Christians, can't you? You can do that and be glad in the gospel, can't you? You can defend the faith, but you can put soul in it first, can't you? Well, that's what Paul did.

So Paul was grateful, but he still loved to hear the gospel preached and hear that people did it. That was good. No doubt the Apostle Paul was severely criticized because he loved people so much.

Yeah, they said he was compromising. Yep. You know what Paul did? They said he went down there to Jerusalem in the 16th chapter, 15th chapter of Acts, and right there with all those Judaizers, they said you've got to get circumcised, you've got to do that.

And Paul said, I'm that crowd right there then. You mean he did? Yes, sir, he did. Oh yeah? So somebody criticized him.

Yes, sir. And let's see, Dr. Bones said about him, this fellow, you know what he did? He said, I'm a Pharisee. Yes, sir, right there in the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem, right up in the middle of that crowd.

He said, I'm a Pharisee. You know that? The Pharisees, that's a bunch of unsaved Jews and legalizers and so on and so forth. But Paul said that.

Yes, sir. Oh, we can't run with him, they said. We're going to have to ostracize him.

And Dr. Linderger, Dr. Cider Linderger, I guess was, he said, I hear that those tonguespeople from Corinth said they wanted Paul to go with them for a big revival campaign in Cairo. What do you think about that, running with that crowd? Oh, he didn't say he'd go, but he might be like him. And also, well, they criticized him because, oh yeah, he loves these people too much, isn't that too bad? And somebody else said, well, that isn't all.

He's right here with all these heathen idols in Rome, and right around here, preachers in this tribe get a lot of those. And even those soldiers in the Praetorian Guard and taking care of Caesar, he preaches to them, buddies with them. What do you think of that? Yeah? Yes, they criticized Paul, but Paul loved the Word and was glad the gospel preached.

Are you glad when the gospel is preached? Are you? Are you glad when the gospel is preached? Now, it's a good thing to be faithful and defending the faith, but that's not much good unless you get people saved, you know. Go on, let's see now. Satan would have us, if we don't watch out, have us forget that the furtherance of the gospel is the one thing first to God and first to Paul.

You know, that furtherance of the gospel. Paul said, this turned out to the furtherance of the gospel. I'm glad to be in jail.

I'm glad to have these chains on my hands and my ankles. If I get the gospel out and more people are preaching it, and some people don't love me and some of them hate me and think I'm making them mad, but I'm glad they're preaching the gospel, Paul said. Are you that way? Wouldn't that be a good idea? Wouldn't that be a good idea? You know, it's so easy to forget.

Then we draw the line wrong. And there was James and John. They were out one day and they saw some fellas casting out devils, and they said, No, I'm not.

You're a part of it. Well, clear it out. You can't be casting out devils.

We don't want you having to do that. You're not of our crowd. They came back and said, Jesus, I'll tell you, we're true fundamentalists.

We're not pseudo-fundamentalists. We're not, no sir, we're the true kind. And we saw people casting out devils, and we told them, clear it out.

You're not in our crowd following us. You can't do it. And Jesus said, don't tell them that.

That's not right. He said, if they're not against us, they're for us. As far as that concerns Jesus, I'm glad anybody's casting out devils.

What did you mean? Oh, you're not. You say you are, but are you really? You're for anybody casting out devils, or would you like to stop everybody that don't belong to your crowd? So Jesus said, clear it out. I'm saying it's so easy for us to get that way about it, where we get a bit of separating from good Christians that we never mind about the devil's crowd.

No time to tend to the martyrdom and the wicked. No time to call old sinners to repentance and get drunkards and harlots and infidels saved. This is defending the faith, you know, and so on.

But now, you remember this, you're just well-placed to honestly say, soul-winning is the one first thing with God. Now, put this thing down. Well, somebody said, well, it makes soul-winning excuse for life.

No, it don't make excuse for anything. Just put it first like God says in the Bible. 1 Timothy 1.15 tells how Paul understood it.

He said, this is a faithful saying and word of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He came for what? To save sinners. Oh, he did many other things, too, but that's what he came

for.

And that's what Paul preached unto. Paul says, I came not to baptize, but to preach the gospel. Now, wait, Paul, aren't you for baptism? Oh, yeah, Paul said, I get everybody that can do whatever they can to get them baptized.

But he said the main thing, I came to preach the gospel, you know. Paul, don't you think that you ought to depend on faith? Oh, yes, Paul said, but didn't come for that. How to come is to preach the gospel.

The Great Commission, Jesus gave and said go into all the world, preach the gospel to every preacher. What's your sin for, Paul? Preach the gospel. Preach the gospel.

Oh, it's to depend on faith, too, and tell these people to behave at the Lord's Supper, too, and tell them to get away from that guy that's living in sin with his stepmother, too. Yeah, that's right, but Paul is preaching the gospel. That's the main thing.

That's the main thing with God. Don't you remember Jesus said, The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost. And if you get anything else worse, you're not a good Christian.

You know that? Oh, if you get anything else, you're not a good Christian. The one thing Jesus died for, one thing the Great Commission's about is to get people saved, the preaching of the gospel. You better put that down.

You know that? Dr. Bob Jones Sr. said to me one time about a famous man you know and I know and a good man, my friend. And to a good man, Dr. Bob said, If we could get him to write a good sermon on soul winning for the sword, wouldn't that be good? And I said, Sure will. I'll write and ask him.

So I wrote to this good, noble man, a good, well-known, famous, and a good writer, and I said, Will you write us a sermon for the sword of the Lord on soul winning? Yes, he wrote back and he said he would, and he wrote a sermon on soul winning. And it started out like this. Now, he said, Of course, the main thing the Lord wants us to do is to depend on faith, but we ought to be soul winners also.

And I wrote back and said, No, sir, we ought not to be soul winners also. You ought to be soul winners first, then get as many other things in that's good as you can. And I couldn't publish it in the sword.

No, sir, not soul winning also. Soul winning first! That's what Jesus died for. That's what the Great Commission's about.

That's what Jesus came for. And Paul had that. So when he got the gospel out, Paul said, All right, these other guys, I'm sorry they're not right about everything else, but I'm sure glad they're getting the gospel out.

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. I don't know whether Paul put in Oral Roberts and the Pentecostals and other folks, too, and the five-point Calvinists and so on.

I don't know whether he did or not. He might have. He prayed for them, I'm sure, like I do.

But Paul said, I'm glad they're preaching the gospel. Praise the Lord. I rejoice.

But I wouldn't want to put a stop or hindrance on anybody that loves Jesus Christ and gets out the gospel. That's what Paul's saying here. Now, there's a great divide in the Bible.

What's that great divide? It's saved and lost. Great divide. Going to heaven, going to hell.

Great divide. Now, for the Lord, for the devil. You're your father the devil, as he said to certain Pharisees and elders.

That's for God or the devil. Mourning in or not. That's where the Bible said all the commands about separation in the Bible are about that matter, of separate from the devil's crowd.

Very simple. Somebody said, What's your stand? My stand is very simple. I'm for everybody.

For Jesus Christ and the Bible, I'm against anybody that's against them. Yeah. That's right.

I reserve the right to tell my friends if they don't do it all. There's some more of it you ought to do, too. And here's a fellow that sprinkles babies.

I'm very free to tell him. I don't find there's sprinkling babies in the Bible. But if you get people to say it, that's fine.

As Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. used to say again and again. He said it in my conference. He said, All right.

He said, Let's get them to heaven anyway if you can't get them in the tank. I'm for getting them baptized, but I'd rather see one people kept out of hell for a billion years than a thousand people baptized. You better put first what God's putting first.

That's get people saved. That's right. There's a great divide.

It is true that sometimes there are people that go so far wrong, Christian people, that their influence is bad on the devil's side, and you have to disassociate from them. So in 1 Corinthians chapter 5, here's a man living in open fornication with his stepmother. And so Paul said, Now if anybody called her brother, and if he's in fornication and extortion and railing and drunkenness, then he said, Put that away from that fellow.

So the man lives an outward growth sin and lives like the devil's scribe. That's too bad. Oh, but most of the talk about separation of the Bible is separate from the devil's scribe.

And then in with the people of God and rejoice that the gospel is preached. Oh, yes, sir. And, but then notice here, how strongly God pleads for peace among Christians.

How strong, do you remember in John 13, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet, he said, If I, your Lord and Master, wash your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. And then he said, By this you'll all know you're my disciples if you have love one for another. Have love one for another.

All Christians ought to love one another. You remember in 1 Corinthians 13, the Lord said, He said, talk with the tongues of men and angels. He said, Because your body shall be burned with Christ.

If you give up everything and you've got faith to move mountains, you don't have brother love, it's nothing, he said. Nothing, he said. So he said, Now by faith, hope, and Christian love, charity, and the graciously shared.

Christians, what's this now, faith? Oh, they have faith to move mountains. There's not much room for love brothers. Christians ought to love one another.

And in Ephesians, the scripture says, He said, Let no evil communications come out of your mouth. He said, Be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another. And Paul wrote to the people at Corinth, and he said to them, Oh, he said, I'm troubled about your divisions, divisions.

One said, I'm for Paul, I'm for Apollos, I'm for Cephas. He said, Listen, we're all for the same Savior. And I didn't save him, and Paul didn't save him, and Apollos didn't.

So get together, divisions. He said, As long as you have divisions, as long as you're carnal, you're baby Christians. I've got to feed you on milk, you're not fit for meat yet.

Too many baby Christians, they're carnal. Divisions, that's the sign of it. That's the sign of a carnal nation among Christians.

Too bad, isn't it? Love one another. And so in Ephesians, the Scripture said that we're to strive for the unity of the Spirit. He said to have one Lord.

Let's change it to wordings. Really, this is what it means. You have the same Lord, the same faith, the same Spirit, the same God and Father.

The same baptism we said. You mean I'm going to go to heaven with these people with the same Savior, the same God, the same hope, the same, that's right, the same kind of trust in Christ. It looks like anybody could get along with somebody who loves Jesus Christ.

Don't you think so? How often does Jesus stress that? So in John chapter 10, Jesus said, Other sheep have I which are not of this fold. He said, I must bring them, and we'll have one fold and one shepherd. Do you like the Lord's other sheep? Well, I know you like the sheep at your house and your church and your crowd and where you spit and so on.

Call names of folks you call names to, but do you love the Lord's other sheep? Do you love the Lord's Pentecostal sheep? Do you? Do you love the Lord? Ah, my. You know, Christians ought to love those that love the Lord. What's your attitude? In 1 Corinthians 13 he said, This kind of Christian love thinks no evil.

It's not puffed up, he said. It's easy to get along with, long-suffering and gentle and so on. You know, a Christian ought not to be suspicious of everybody.

A Christian ought not to say, Well, I'm a good fundamentalist. I approve it. I'm trying to block the minister of Jericho.

Well, if I can get him off there and make him stop preaching, I'll be a real fundamentalist. No, you wouldn't. You wouldn't even be a good Christian.

No. No. A Christian ought to love one another and not be suspicious of one another.

A Christian ought not to think evil of others until they have to. Some years ago, about a great man of God, a Christian brother of God, I love very much. He said to me, Did you know so-and-so happened that a certain man was found? Oh, it's out.

He was in a hotel with a woman in a certain northern city, and they told what city it was. And it's out now, and the man said, This race. I said, I don't believe it.

Well, he said, I know, but they told me they know. I said, I don't care. I don't believe it.

And he said, Why don't you believe it? I said, I don't want to believe it. I'm not going to believe it. And I didn't.

And two or three months later, that same man came back to me and said, You know, that was a mistake. He said the fellow misunderstood about it, and it was not true at all. And so I said, Praise the Lord.

And I went off by myself, and I prayed. And I said, Lord, next time somebody slanders me, I wish you'd remember, Lord, I didn't believe it about that man. Yeah.

Wouldn't it be good to have the Christian people who either think no evil, or they're not so quick to find fault, not so quick to imagine some wickedness? Christian people ought to love one another, how often the Bible tells it. What's the Christian going to do, then, about this matter of fellowship with Christians? I don't mean the devil's crowd. I mean good Christians.

I don't mean the martyrs don't believe the Bible. I don't mean running with that crowd. I'm talking about good Christians.

I'm talking about be born again, be in the Bible, preach the gospel, one soul saved. I'm talking about that. What's it going to do to those? Well, in Romans chapter 14, the scripture says, Him that is weak in the faith, Mark, in the faith, that's a term often used in the New Testament, in the faith, that means certain distinctions with Christian doctrine.

But a man's weak in the faith, he said, receive him, but not to doubtful disputations. You mean get along with the fellow? If he's not a very strong Christian, yeah. You mean if he's strong in baptism, yeah, if he's right on the blood and salvation and going to heaven, and if he don't make a fuss about it, yeah.

You mean if he's wrong on task? Yeah, if he's right on the blood and salvation, getting people saved, and if he don't make division and strife over it, yeah. I had a revival campaign in Springfield, Missouri. A great four pole circus set launched across Chandra.

All the great crowds came and had hundreds and hundreds saved. One night I had 26 assembly of God preachers on the platform. They believed what I preached.

They liked my kind of preaching. They were glad to see people saved. They said, amen, I preach.

They helped to get people saved. You don't like that? I do. I think the Lord liked it all right.

I was in a revival campaign in Huntington, West Virginia, East Huntington High School. We had many churches, all believed the Bible. All believed in some Methodist and Baptist and Perpetual and other kinds in there.

One night a Pilgrim Holder's pastor came early, and I was outside. He pulled me off in a corner in the dark. He said, Brother, I've got something for you.

I think he gave me three dollars. He said, I don't have much. But the Lord told me to give you something.

He said, you know, I've been so blessed with your preaching. He said, Brother, and I was cracking down on sin. I said, cut out some of this.

I said, third family altar. I said, get out of here to one of them souls. And so he said, Brother, I believe you're sanctified and don't know it.

Go ahead and laugh. That's all right. I was preaching.

He believed what I believed about it. He was glad there were such people saved. I shook his hand and took the three dollars.

They were precious to me. What's wrong with loving Christians? Huh? He said, well, you leave all human. No.

No, I said it different from them. I think the way I said it was best. But then he got along all right.

He said, Sister, I was helping people get up clean and live and do right. That suited him all right. And now Christians ought to get along with Christians.

You think not? So Dr. Bob Jones and I were together in a great citywide campaign in Chicago. In the arena in Chicago. And Dr. Paul Rood preached six days, Dr. Bob Jones seven days.

I had the last 15 days. Had some 2,700 professionals of faith. Had over, oh, I think nearly 200 churches.

Well, I mean, Baptists and Swedish, Covenant and every kind. Except unbelievers. All of them read the Bible.

All of them read my kind of preaching. And Dr. Bob Jones and so on. Don't you think Christians could get along, love each other? Ought to.

I was up here in a revival campaign in an Ohio city in good time, blessed time. An old man was there one night. His name was Cook.

Oh, he was 80-some-odd years old. And he called me to come to him this week. And he said, Dr. Rice, go on preaching.

He said, I grew up in London. I was converted on the Spurgeon. I was trained in his pastor's college.

He said, that's the kind of preaching he did. Keep on. He said, you know, I had this union campaign, a cooperative campaign.

I remember when Spurgeon was the two Episcopal Anglican bishops and had a revival campaign. Well, he didn't believe in all the Anglicans. I don't know, but he believed in Christ and the blood.

You know, salvation, getting people saved. Now, listen. Do you believe this in the Bible, some reason that God said that's a good way to be? You think that's a good pattern God set in the first year? What do you want to do for them? Him that is weak in the faith, receive you.

That same 14th chapter goes on to say, One man thinks it's all right to eat meat. Another fellow said, No, sir. I'm a health food faddist, and I'm not going to eat anything but this special kind.

I wouldn't eat meat. Oh, no, sir. Oh, what? All right.

God bless the poor nuts. I'm poor. I'm here to starve to death.

One time in San Pedro, California, they did a wide campaign. They put me in a home. Oh, they wanted to keep me otherwise, so I got a special employment, so and so.

And they starved me nearly to death, feeding me on substitutes for meat. I'd slip off and go down to a hamburger stand and get a hamburger now and then, so on. But God blessed them.

They loved the Lord. I know the Bible says, Every creature of God is good for food. Nothing can be refused.

It can be received with thanksgiving. It's sanctified by the word of God and prayer. But if somebody don't know that and loves Jesus, I'm poor.

Then it says some people keep one day and some keep another. Yes, sir. All right.

Go ahead. I had a letter this today from home. It said, Oh, I've been to Santa Claus.

I saw a picture of a little pin of Santa Claus on it. And that's idolatry and so and so. Well, if somebody don't believe in having Christmas, okay, I do believe I'm preaching on the wise men from the east and the shepherds and the hillside and the angels in the sky and a baby boy and a ninja because there's no woman in.

I like Christmas for that. If you don't like that, you preach that some other time. But I just heard you preach the gospel.

You see that? Yes, sir. All right. You're going to have everybody believe alike.

Somebody said to me, Brother Rice, when you get all the people agreeing together, then you can have revival. No, then you've got the millennium my brother is singing about now. Well, what are you going to do? You're going to love Christians, get people saved, put so many first.

As Dr. Bob Jones Senior used to say, let's go as far as you can go on the right road. Is that right? If it's the wrong road, then get off it. But as long as it's on the right road, that means the blood and getting people saved and getting them to start a family altar and get them to win their loved ones and get them to have a Bible kind of church and so on.

As long as it's on the right road, stay with them. Is that all right? Get along with Christians and rejoice. That's what Paul did.

There are some of the things, the fellowship, we don't all agree with everything. Sometimes it'd be a hyper-Calvinist, bi-point Calvinist, and he's a hell-raiser sometimes. Oh, that's too bad.

If there are any doubtful disputations, you can't run with him. But Paisley doesn't do that, Spurgeon didn't do that. He had people saved.

I got along pretty well with Spurgeon. I got along pretty well with Paisley. I preached in his church at Belfast.

He preached for us at Murfreesboro.

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