

## In Defense of Ministry

### Objectives:

- To understand the rights and privileges of apostleship.
  - To understand the Biblical authority for supporting those who labor in the gospel.
  - To understand the danger of the coming apostasy.
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### QUESTIONS

V1. What is an apostle? What are the qualifications to be an apostle?

Vvs.4 & 5. As an apostle what two things did Paul have a right to?

#### **Verses 7-14 Evidences for financial support in ministry.**

V7. Example of a soldier, farmer and shepherd.

V9. Old Testament: Deuteronomy 25:4; 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy. 5:18.

V11. An exchange of spiritual things for material things.

V12. Why did Paul refuse the financial support of the church?

V13. The priest received financial support from the temple.

V14. God has ordained financial support for ministers.

#### **Verses 15-18 Paul refuses the financial support .**

V15. Why did Paul refuse the support?

V17. Paul considered his ministry as an act of stewardship. Is your ministry a stewardship concern for you?

V18. What is the reward of your ministry?

#### **Verses 19-23 Christian liberty.**

V19. In terms of Christian liberty Paul was free, but as it relates to Christian responsibility Paul considered himself a servant to all men.

Vvs.20-22. Was Paul compromising the gospel that he might convince others to accept Christ?

## **Verses 24-27: The coming apostasy.**

- V24. Paul warns believers to run the Christian race with purpose and within the prescribed guidelines; because a time of severe testing was approaching.
- V25. The example here is an athletic event and every participant trains his body that he may win the race. What do you do to prepare for spiritual endurance?
- V26. Paul cautions the believer not to run aimlessly. What does it mean?
- V27. How do we keep our bodies under control such that we don't become spiritually disqualified for future rewards?