

A Certain Jew Named Apollos

Acts 18:24-28

Introduction:

- A. Luke introduces us to a “certain Jew named, Apollos” (v. 24)
- B. Paul later spoke favorably of Apollos. (1 Cor. 3:4-6; 16:12; Tit. 3:13)
- C. Apollos is worthy of commendation because of way he handled two things.

Discussion:

I. The Way He Handled Eloquence.

- A. He was a man of outstanding ability and knowledge (v. 24,25).
 - 1. Did not let it go to his head, as one might. (cf. 1 Cor. 8:1,2).
 - 2. Did not use it to promote and serve self, as some did. (cf. Rom. 16:18).
 - 3. Did use it to speak “accurately the things of the Lord”. (v.25)
- B. He coupled it with a fervent spirit. (v. 25).
 - 1. A fervent spirit without knowledge is dangerous. (Rom. 10:1-3).
 - 2. Knowledge without a fervent is useless Lord’s Cause.
 - a. Without it Aquila and Priscilla would not have approached Apollos. (v. 26).
 - b. Without it Apollos would not have “greatly helped those who had believed..” (v. 27)
 - c. Without it Christianity not labor of love. (cf. Heb. 6:10-12).
 - d. Without it Christians do not abound. (1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Pet. 1:8).
- C. He coupled it with boldness and courage. (v. 26)
 - 1. Enough to speak out in Jewish Synagogue - not exactly a friendly audience.
 - 2. Enough to “vigorously refute Jews publicly”. (v. 28)

II. The Way He Handled Correction.

- A. He was mighty in Scriptures but still was wrong on a vital point (v. 25)
 - 1. He needed to be more accurate. (v.26).
 - 2. He need to know about baptism “in name of Lord” (cf. Acts 19:4,5)
 - a. Like John’s, it is in water. (Acts 10:47,48)
 - b. Like John’s, it involves repentance and remission of sins. (Lk. 3:3; Acts 2:38)
 - c. Unlike John’s, it *preceded* by faith in the Christ who has come. (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16)
- B. He was humble and honest enough to be corrected. (v. 26).
 - 1. Welcomed honest investigation. (cf. Acts 17:11).
 - 2. Had a good and honest heart. (cf. Lk. 8:15).

Conclusion:

- A. How much ability and knowledge do you have? How well do you handle it?
- B. How honest are you when charged with error? Enough to investigate and change?