

Minority Reports – Part 12
Paul: Jewish Ambassador to Gentiles
Acts 13:42-49; 18:1-8; II Cor.5:14-21; Eph.6:19-20

0.0 Introduction

- 0.1 A dinner with the ambassador of Burundi
- 0.2 Ambassadors aim to represent home country winsomely to others
- 0.3 Ancient Roman Republic: senate appointed a *legatus* to foreign mission (*legatio*)

1.0 Paul the Ambassador (Ac.13,18)

- 1.1 Ironically, “ambassador in chains” (Eph.6:20)
- 1.2 Primary opportunity among own ethno-religion (Ac.13:46; 18:6 – shaken dust)
- 1.3 “Light to the Gentiles” (Ac.13:47), seeking right words to proclaim it (Eph.6:19)
- 1.4 Ambassador’s ‘payment’ (II Cor.11:23-28) – so, why do this at all?

2.0 Diplomatic Motivation (II Cor.5)

- 2.1 “The love of Christ constrains us” (v.14; Rom.9:1-5)
- 2.2 To see “new creations” emerge (v.17)
- 2.3 Ministry of reconciliation (vv.18-20)
- 2.4 At cost paid by Christ, on your behalf (v.21)

3.0 Then & Now: Representing the Kingdom

- 3.1 On the one hand, the office of apostle was unique and temporary
- 3.2 On the other hand, *every* follower of Jesus “salt & light” (Matt.5:13)
- 3.3 This Thanksgiving, let’s thank God for the people he has sent our way!

Dec.5 – Minority Reports (Part 13)
Luke: Gentile Physician Amongst Jews – Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-5

Dec.12 – Minority Reports (Part 14)
Immanuel: God With Us – John 1:1-14

Dec.19 – Minority Reports (Part 15)
Of Whom the World Was Not Worthy – Heb.11:32-40