

## Acts 26:28, Agrippa's Statement defeats...

**UNIVERSALISM:** *Some believe that God is a loving God Who will not send anyone to hell. It is true that God loves everyone, this is why He sent His Son to die for the world. But His just nature will not allow Him to allow entrance into heaven for anyone who does not obey His Son (Hebrews 5:8-9; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9). Sadly, the majority will be condemned (Matthew 7:13-14).*

**CALVINISM:** *Calvinism teaches that man does not have free will to choose to serve God and go to heaven. But Agrippa realized that one can be persuaded to become a christian. Heaven and hell are the two eternal destinations available to men, and each man and woman chooses his own destination by choosing either to serve God or not to serve God (Joshua 24:15).*

**DENOMINATIONAL NAMES:** *Agrippa recognized that Paul was trying to persuade him to become, not a Methodist, or a Baptist, etc, but a "Christian." This is the new Name God chose for His people and this is the only name by which we can be saved (Isa 62:2; Acts 11:26; Acts 4:12). Those who sought to be called by any other name were rebuked for it (1 Corinthians 1:10-17).*

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

**SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16

**PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12

**PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5

**LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7

**GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



### **COME WORSHIP WITH US!**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00**

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## **SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER**

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*"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11*

Volume 12, Number 15

April 17, 2016

### **SUFFICIENT GRACE**

Michael Pickford

Much is said in scripture about the grace of God. Let's consider three essentials...

**Salvation.** We are saved by God's grace (Ephesians 2:9-10). That is to say, we have the opportunity to obey God and be saved because He has freely given us this opportunity by sending His Son to die for our sins. We did nothing to deserve this free gift, but God, because of His great love for us, sent His Son to die for undeserving, ungodly sinners (Romans 5:6-9). This grace, this opportunity to obey God and be saved, is available to all of mankind. It appeared to all men (Titus 2:11), and it is to be preached to all men (Mark 16:15). You, regardless of how sinful you have been in life, have this opportunity of salvation before you. Obey the Lord and be saved (Hebrews 5:8-9; Mark 16:16).

**Sufficiency.** Folks wonder why faithful saints get sick and die young, or why they suffer other devastating things in life. They question God's love in this. Remember though, even the apostle Paul suffered with a "Thorn in the flesh." He asked God repeatedly for relief from it, but God's answer was no, "My Grace is Sufficient for you" (2 Corinthians 12:9). The answer to questions like, "Why does God allow cancer," "Why does God allow wicked men to murder the innocent," "Why do good people suffer," is that ultimately, God is more concerned about our eternal salvation than He is about our physical health. In fact, He uses these earthly challenges to strengthen our faith (1 Peter 1:6-9). His grace is sufficient for us in that if He never does another thing for us, it's enough that He has sent His Son to die for our sins and provide for us an entrance into the joys of heaven.

**Sacrifice.** God's grace, His Son on the cross, teaches us that we should be willing to sacrifice the sinful pleasures of this life for Him. It teaches us that we should be "Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts," and that "We should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age" (Titus 2:11-12). We should deny the worldly pleasure of this life so that we might have eternal pleasures in eternal life (Titus 2:13). Christ gave Himself for us that we might offer our lives in this body as a living sacrifice for Him (Titus 2:14; Romans 12:1-2).

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# PROTECTING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Michael Pickford

Having religious freedom in this country is a great blessing. It is unique and we should certainly be thankful for it. I fear that too many take it for granted, yet many men and women have made great sacrifices that we may have it. More and more, laws are being passed that limit or altogether rob us of our religious freedoms, often in the name of "Political correctness" being pushed on us by the liberal (progressive) thinkers of our society. ...

**Problems.** The Homosexual agenda is fast becoming more than just a thorn in the flesh to those who want to serve God. It is threatening our freedom of religion, common sense, and public safety. It's common sense that our wives and little girls should have privacy in public restrooms, without having to share them with men masquerading as women, yet laws are being passed to support such. States that are hustling to pass laws to forbid "transgender" people from using public restrooms of the opposite sex are being criticized and boycotted by large companies. I read this week that Bruce Springsteen cancelled a concert in a certain state as an act of protest against them because they are seeking to forbid men dressed like women from using women's public bathrooms. He spoke of how some people are stuck in the dark ages. Does he, and others like him, really want a man who is perverted enough to dress like a woman in public sharing a public restroom with his female loved ones? Businesses are being sued for not catering to homosexual marriages, laws are having to be passed that will allow preachers to say "no" to performing homosexual marriages, and the list of problems go on. Are you concerned? You should be. Remember, God condemns homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27), and He desires for us to have religious freedom. We should never resort to hatred or violence towards any sinner, that would be sinful in and of itself, but there are some steps we can take...

**Prayers.** One step we can and must take is to take it to the Lord in prayer. Religious freedom is a bible subject and we are told specifically that God desires us to have religious freedom, and we told to pray specifically for it. *"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior"* (1 Timothy 2:1-3). We need to be praying against these laws that restrict our freedom and the peace we enjoy to worship God and preach the Gospel.

**Protests.** There are some who protest wickedness by resorting to violence. These will bomb abortion clinics, and physically attack and harm homosexuals. This is not biblical and it is not Christ-like in any sense of the word. One way we can protest these things is by voting. Some say we should completely separate religion and politics. Nonsense! Do they really believe our service to God shouldn't influence every aspect of our lives, including how we vote? There are still politicians out there who oppose things like abortion, and the homosexual agenda. They support the religious freedom to preach against these things. Why would you not try to get them into office? Why would one pray for religious freedom and then support individuals and parties who want to rob us of these freedoms? We also protest against these evils by not being silent, but by trying to teach our friends and neighbors the biblical truths on these matters, and by preaching against these evils from our pulpits. Let's strive to protect our religious freedom in a biblical manner! ☞

## SERMON NOTES

*Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11**

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Frank Anderson  
Reading: Genesis 3:1-6
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....John Nelson  
Serve.....Tony Jenkins
- Closing Prayer.....Sam Miller

#### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table.....Tony Jenkins

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Sam Miller
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

**Thank You For Serving!**

### GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16;  
Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

**Obey Today!**

**Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!**