

PREACHERS AND CHURCHES, A FEW FACTS
I COR. 16:5-24

Introduction:

- A. There are many Bible verses.
 - 1. Some never are preached.
 - 2. All are God's Word.

- B. Some of these verses are mentioned often.
 - 1. v9, "For a great door and effectual is opened."
 - 2. These verses represent one-liner admonitions or words of encouragement.

I. PREACHERS MAY NOT SEE THEIR FUTURE WORK CLEARLY. V5-7

- A. Paul will come to visit them.
 - 1. "I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia."

- B. He may abide for a season.
 - 1. "I am likely to stay awhile, even spend the winter."

- C. They can aid him in his travels.
 - 1. "So you may help me on to whatever points I may visit."

- D. A brief visit is not acceptable.
 - 1. "I do not want this to be a passing visit."
 - 2. I hope to spend some time with you.

- E. God will be the one to decide.
 - 1. "if the Lord permit."
 - 2. permit = epinetio = give up, yield, entrust.

II. PREACHERS MAY SEE THEIR PRESENT WORK CLEARLY. V8,9

- A. Paul knew what God wanted.

1. Stay at Ephesus until Pentecost. v8
 2. Why? v9a.
 - a. door = thura - door, access.
 - b. effectual = energeis - energetic, active work.
 3. There is an opportunity for energetic work.
- B. There would be opposition. v9b.
1. "and there are many adversaries."
 2. adversary = antikeimai - to be placed in opposition.
 3. Why do we usually think that opposition is a clear indication that a task is not of God?

III. PREACHERS MAY BE AFRAID OF CHURCHES. v10,11

- A. They were to make Timothy feel comfortable.
1. without fear = aphobos - terror, fright, dismay.
 2. He also did God's work, "for he worketh the work of the Lord as I also do."
- B. They were to treat him with respect. v10
1. despise = eksoutheneo - to treat with contempt.
 2. "send him on his way in peace."

IV. PREACHERS MAY NOT AGREE ON ALL THINGS. v12

- A. Paul wanted Apollos to visit them.
1. "as touching our brother Apollos."
- B. Apollos did not think it timely.
1. "his will was not at all to come at this time."