

# Evangelism Without Offense

## 1 Corinthians 10:32-33

### I. Intro

#### ● Anecdote

#### • Evangelist

- It was six weeks ago — when the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously sided with a Mississippi evangelist named Gabriel Olivier.
- Just to be clear - Olivier was arrested and fined back in 2021 - for preaching outside a public Amphitheater in Brandon, Mississippi...
- ...after people complained that they were offended by the things he was shouting.
- And while the street evangelist insisted that he was just telling people about Jesus...
- ...those who were offended - informed the authorities that Olivier was shouting insensitive slurs at people - over a loudspeaker.
- And it's for this reason that the evangelist was arrested - according to a city ordinance...
- ...that bars people from from engaging in public protests - and/or demonstrations - outside the Brandon Amphitheater.

#### • Verdict

- In response to his arrest - Olivier filed a law suit against the city - as he fought for his first Amendments rights.
- Just to be clear - the first amendment of our Constitution guarantees us the right to exercise our religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition.

- And yet - this didn't stop a district court - and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals - from ruling against Olivier's first amendment right.
- That being the case - we can rejoice in knowing that - this case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court...
- ...where all nine justices ruled in favor of Olivier's constitutional right - to publicly express his religious convictions.
- And while it's true that every Christian here in America has the freedom to exercise this same right...
- ...it's also true that we've been called to engage in Evangelism - without being overtly offensive.

## II. Outline

### ● Points

- Inoffensive
- With this as our goal - we're going to spend our time today - considering the best way to Evangelize without offense.
  - And as we study these scriptures - we'll begin to see that...
    1. ...we engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking Peace
    2. ...we engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking to Please
    3. ...we engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking to Profit
  - With this as our outline - let's open our Bibles to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...
  - ...where we find Paul - encouraging his audience to engage in evangelism - without offense.

## III. Peace

## ● Set up

### • Context

- As we make our way to the 10th chapter of 1st Corinthians - I should take a moment to put our text - back into it's context.
- It'll first help us to remember that - Paul was helping the Christians in Corinth to understand that...
- ...they were free to eat dinner with an unbeliever - providing that they were willing to consider the conscience of their host.
- And while the original recipients of this epistle were concerned about the conflict - concerning eating meats offered to idols...
- ...Paul was more concerned about the great commission of Christ - so that the unbelievers there in Corinth - might be saved.
- And it's for this reason that he encouraged them to do their best - to avoid offending those who needed to be saved.
- With this as our focus - let's pick up our study of 1st Corinthians 10 beginning there at verse 32 - where Paul declared...

## ● Text

1Co 10:32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God,

1Co 10:33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

### • Saved

- Here in the final verses of this chapter - we find Paul - sharing his concerns about the unbelievers - who still needed to be saved.
- Just to be clear - that word - saved - found there at the end of verse 33 - was translated from the Greek word - SOZO...

- ...which is found in the New Testament - 110 times.
- And while this word was used in reference to the deliverance from disease or demon possession...
  - ...the same word is used of those who are delivered from the penalties of divine judgment.
  - And that's exactly how Paul was using this word - as he referred to those whom he was hoping would be saved.
- Salvation
  - With this as the goal - it's important to understand that - the primary way that sinners are saved - is through the spiritual discipline of evangelism.
  - Let's consider how Paul put it - back in the first chapter of this same epistle - it's 1st Corinthians chapter 1 - verse 18 - where
 

1Co 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
  - Now - just to be clear - the message of the cross - refers to way that our Messiah - Jesus - died on the cross for our sins.
  - And while it's true that there are many who insist that this message is foolish...
    - ...it's also true that the same message contains the supernatural power - by which believers are saved.
    - And it's for this reason that the Lord Jesus has commissioned every Christians to engage in the discipline of evangelism...
      - ...so that sinners might be saved - by faith in the message of the cross.
- Offense

- Now - the main problem with this plan is based on the fact that this message by which we are saved - is a stumbling block to those who are lost.
- Let's consider how Paul put it - back in 1st Corinthians chapter 1 - it's beginning at verse 20 - where Paul asked...

1Co 1:20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

1Co 1:21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

1Co 1:22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;

1Co 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness...

- According to Paul - the Jews were offended by the message of the cross - because - to them - it was a stumbling block.
  - And the Gentiles were equally offended by the message of the cross - because to them - it sounded like foolishness.
  - What this means is that - the message of the cross by which sinners can be saved...
    - ...is a message that easily offends those who desperately needs to be saved.
    - Not only that - but - the born again believer also exudes a spiritual aroma that is offensive to the unbeliever.
- Spirit
  - In order to prove my point - let's consider the way that Paul explained this to the Christians in Corinth.
  - Hold your place - here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles - to 2nd Corinthians chapter 2.

- And as we make our way to the second chapter of 2nd Corinthians - I wanna take a moment to remind you that...
- ...those who have been born-again - by faith in Jesus Christ - have also been filled with the Spirit of the living God.
  - And while it's true that the indwelling Spirit of God - enables us to connect with Christ Jesus on a spiritual level...
  - ...it's also true that the disciples of Christ diffuse a spiritual aroma - everywhere we go.

- Aroma

- Let's consider how Paul put it - here in 2nd Corinthians chapter 2 - look with me - beginning there at verse 14 - where Paul declared...

2Co 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

2Co 2:15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

2Co 2:16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things?

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - helping his audience to understand that...
  - ...the disciples of Christ are constantly diffusing a spiritual aroma - everywhere we go.
  - And while this fragrance of Christ smells like eternal life - to those who are being saved...
  - ...the same aroma smells like death - to those who are rejecting our Redeemer.
  - And what this means is that - we produce a spiritual aroma that is offensive to those who are perishing.

- That being the case - Paul encouraged the Christians in Corinth to do their best to avoid being offensive.

- No Offense

- In light of these things - it's no wonder that Paul encouraged his audience to do their best to avoid every offense.
- Let's consider how he put it back in 1st Corinthians 10 - let's take another look at verse 32 - where Paul declared...

1Co 10:32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God

- Now - that phrase - no offense - was translated from a Greek word - which was used of those who avoid anything that causes another to be offended.
  - It was used of those who steer clear of committing the sort of corruption - that could cause others to stumble into sin.
  - More simply put - Paul was encouraging the Christians in Corinth to become blameless believers...
  - ...who do everything we can to avoid offending those who are here within our fellowship of faith...
  - ...as well as those we're trying to reach with the gospel message of grace.
- Anyone
  - I like the way that the scholars who created the New International Version rendered verse 32 - here's how they put it...

1Co 10:32 Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God

- From this - we can see that - Christians should do their best to avoid offending every person - regardless of what they believe.
- And while this most includes other believers - who belong to the church of God...
  - ...Paul was also concerned about the Jews - and the Gentiles - who had yet to believe in the message of the cross.
    - With this as the goal - we should take some time to consider how Christians - who are constantly diffusing the aroma of death...
      - ...are able to present an offensive message - without offense.
- Offenders
  - In order to understand this conundrum - we should contemplate the instructions that Paul presented...
    - ...in the epistle that he sent to the Christians at the church in Rome.
    - And so - hold your place here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles - to Romans chapter 12.
    - And as we make our way to the 12th chapter of Romans - I wanna take a moment to address the online apologists...
      - ...who are unnecessarily offensive - as they present their case for the Christian faith.
        - And while there are those who do a great job - presenting the message of the cross - in a winsome way...
          - ...there are also those who are needlessly offensive - in the way they communicate the message of the cross.
  - Possible
    - Now - don't get me wrong - - because - - remember - the disciples of Christ are constantly diffusing an offensive aroma - spiritually speaking.

- And the message of our Messiah is going to offend those who don't want to hear it.
- Remember - the gospel message is offensive to both Jew - and Gentile alike.
- What this means is that - it's impossible for Christians to communicate the message of the cross - without offense.
  - At the same time - we can do our best to present the gospel message of grace - in a way that is gracious...
  - ...so that we might keep the peace - with those we're trying to reach.

## ● Application

- Peace
- Let's consider how Paul put it - here in Romans chapter 12 - look with me beginning there at verse 14 - where he declared...

Rom 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Rom 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

Rom 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

Rom 12:18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - encouraging the Christians in Rome - to do everything possible - to live peaceably with everyone.
- And while I'm sure we all realize that this isn't always possible - - the fact remains the same...

- ...Christians have been called to pursue peace with all people - so that we can reveal the love of the Lord - to those who are lost.
- With this as the goal - we must not forget that the message of the cross is bound to offend those we're trying to reach.
  - And it's for this reason that we should share our faith - with gentleness and respect.
- Conduct
  - This was precisely the point that the apostle Peter was making - in 1st Peter chapter 3 - it's beginning at verse 15 - where he declared...

1Pe 3:15 ...sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with gentleness and respect;

1Pe 3:16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

- Christian - listen - the best way for us to engage in the spiritual discipline of evangelism...
  - ...is to present the hope that we have in Jesus - with gentleness and respect.
  - In this way - we can try to keep the peace with those we're trying to reach...
    - ...as we present them with the message of our Messiah - which is sure to offend.
    - Knowing that the message is sure to offend - let's do our best to speak the truth - in love - so that some might be saved.
- Transition
- Points
  - This brings us to our second point - because listen...

1. ...we not only engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking Peace with others...
2. ...but - we also engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking to Please our God.
  - In order to explain what I mean - let's turn back to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...
  - ...where we find Paul - encouraging the original recipients of this epistle - to learn how to please all people.
  - With this as our focus - let's back up and begin reading again - there at verse 32 - where Paul declared...

#### IV. Please

- Text

1Co 10:32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God,

1Co 10:33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

- Please

- Now - as we take another look at our text today - we should take a moment to consider what Paul meant...
- ...when he informed the Christians in Corinth - that he pleased all men in all things.
- That word - please - found there in the middle of verse 33 - was translated from a Greek word...
- ...which was used of those who try to accommodate one's self to the opinions - desires - and interests of others.

- With this definition in mind - we should take a moment to ask - - was this true of Paul?
- In other words - was Paul a man who was always ready to adapt his own opinion - in order to please others?
  - OR - is there another way to understand what he meant - when he informed his audience that he sought to please all men in all things.
- False Gospel
  - In order to answer this question - we should take a moment to consider how Paul used the same word - in the epistle he sent to the church in Galatia.
  - Hold your place here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles to Galatians chapter 1...
  - ...and as we make our way to the first chapter of Galatians - I wanna take a moment to point out that...
  - ...Paul was addressing the false teachers - who were leading people astray - by perverting the gospel message of Jesus Christ.
  - And it's sad to say that there were believers at the church in Galatia - who were turning away from the gospel that Paul preached.
  - That being the case - Paul wrote this letter - in order to help them realize that...
    - ...they needed to reject the false teachers - who were preaching a false gospel.
- Please?
  - Let's consider how Paul put it - here in Galatians chapter 1 - look with me beginning there at verse 6 - where Paul declared...

Gal 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

Gal 1:7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

Gal 1:11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.

Gal 1:12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - challenging the Christians in Corinth - who were beginning to embrace the false gospel of the Judaizers.
- And while it's true that Paul was a man who tried to please all men in all things...
- ...it's also true that Paul was unwilling to accommodate his opinion - in order to please the false teachers who were leading people astray.
- And it's here in these verses - where he assured his audience that he wasn't trying to please the men...
- ...who were purposefully perverting the gospel message of Jesus Christ.
- Contradiction
- Now - remember - it was back in 1st Corinthians 10 - where Paul presented himself as a person who pleases all men in all things.
- And yet - it's here in Galatians chapter 1 - where Paul also informs us that he was a bondservant of Jesus - who wasn't trying to please men.
- At the surface level - it certainly seems like Paul was contradicting himself...

- ...as he described himself as being a man who pleased all men - while also insisting that he wasn't trying to please all men.
- And while there are those who are quick to accuse Paul of a contradiction...
  - ...I can assure you that there is a simple solution for this Biblical conundrum.
- Definition
  - The solution for this apparent contradiction is found in the definition of the Greek word - which was rendered - please.
  - Now - remember - the original Greek word was used of those who try to accommodate their own opinions - to the opinions of others.
  - At the same time - the same Greek word was also used of those who attempt to be agreeable - in the way they disagree with others.
  - What this means is that - Paul was a man who did his best to please all people - by disagreeing in an agreeable way.
  - In this way - he could rightly say that he did his best to please all men...
    - ...while simultaneously insisting that he wasn't willing to adapt his message - - in order to accommodate a false gospel.
- Primary
  - In order to better understand Paul's perspective - we should consider the encouragement that he presented to the Christians in Thessalonica.
  - It's in 1st Thessalonians chapter 4 - verse 4 - where Paul declared...

1Th 2:4 ...as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

- Rather than encouraging the Christians in Thessalonica - to become people pleasers...
- ...Paul reminded them that believers have been called to become pleasers of God - as we preach the gospel message of grace.
- And as we synthesize the different ways that Paul used the Greek word - which was rendered - please...
  - ...it seems clear to me that Paul was a man who wanted to please God - in the way that he proclaimed the message of the cross.
  - Therefore - he also sought to please all people - by presenting the gospel message - in a pleasing way.
- Pleaser?
- In order to further grasp the way that Paul pleased all people in all things - - we should consider the example of the Lord Jesus.
- And so - continue holding your place there in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles to Romans chapter 15.
- And as we make our way to the 15th chapter of Romans - I should take a moment to point out that...
  - ...those who make it their primary aim to please all people - will find themselves living in bondage - to the opinions of others.
  - At the same time - those who make it their primary aim to please themselves - will live in bondage to their own opinions.
  - That being the case - the best thing that we can do - is to make it our primary purpose to please God first...

- ...so that we can become those believers - who learn how to please every person - in every way.

## ● Application

### • Christ

- Let's consider how Paul put it here in Romans chapter 15 - - look with me beginning there at verse 1 - where he declared...

Rom 15:1 We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Rom 15:2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.

Rom 15:3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me."

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - reminding his readers about the example of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - And just to be clear - it's important for us to realize that - Christ didn't suffer for our sins - in order to please Himself.
  - Not only that - but - it's also important to understand that - Christ didn't die on the cross - in order to please every person.
  - No - instead - Jesus was perfectly clear when He informed the Pharisees...
    - ...that He came to please His Heavenly Father - by accomplishing His predetermined plan.
- The Father
  - Let's consider how Jesus explained it - in John chapter 8 - it's verses 28 and 29 - where Jesus declared...

Jhn 8:28 “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.

Jhn 8:29 “And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”

- Christian - listen - Jesus didn't die on the cross - with the primary purpose of pleasing Himself.
- And He didn't die on the cross - with the primary purpose of pleasing all people.
- No - instead - He died on the cross - with the primary purpose of pleasing God the Father.
- In this way - He also made it His aim to please all people - - by providing us with a way for every sinner to be saved.
- And in light of His example - Paul also sought to please all people in every way - - by presenting them with message of the cross.
- Evangelism
- With all of this in mind - I encourage every Christian to follow in the footsteps of Paul...
- ...by becoming believers who are ready to preach the message of the cross - so that we might please all men in all things.
- And knowing that there will be those who will reject the gospel message of grace...
- ...we should also learn how to disagree - agreeably - so that we can evangelize - without offense.
- And while we might be tempted to become people pleasers who avoid offending unbelievers with the message of the cross...
- ...we must not forget that - the primary purpose of every Christian should be to please our Heavenly Father first.

- And as we do - - the Holy Spirit will help us to learn how to please the people around us - according to the will of God.

## ● Transition

### • Points

- Now - this brings us to our third and final point - because listen...
  1. ...we not only engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking Peace with others...
  2. ...and - we not only engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking to Please our God...
  3. ...but - we also engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking the Profit of those who need Jesus.
    - In order to explain what I mean - let's turn back to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...
      - ...where we find Paul - describing the way that he sought the profit of others.
      - With this as or focus - let's back up and begin reading again - there at verse 32 - where Paul declared...

## V. Profit

### ● Text

1Co 10:32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God,

1Co 10:33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

### • Not

- Here in the second half of verse 33 - we find Paul - expanding upon the idea of what it means to be pleasing to every person.

- He did this by helping his audience to understand that - he wasn't engaging in evangelism - for his own personal profit.
- And to the contrary - - Paul's evangelistic endeavors came with a personal price...
  - ...which resulted in stripes above measure - as he received forty stripes minus one - on five different occasions.
  - He was also beaten with rods - three times - and he was imprisoned more times than he wanted to mention.
  - And as we consider all of the ways that Paul was persecuted - we can be certain that Paul wasn't seeking his own profit.
- Loss

- I like the way that Paul put it - in Philippians chapter 3 - it's beginning at verse 7 - where he declared...

Phl 3:7 ...what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

Phl 3:8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

Phl 3:9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith

- As we consider the point that Paul was making - I should remind you that - it was prior to his conversion to Christ...
  - ...when Paul was well on his way to becoming one of the most powerful Pharisees in Israel.
  - But then - on the road to Damascus - Paul found himself face to face with Jesus.

- It was at that moment when he realized that everything that he had been working towards - was rubbish.
- And it's for this reason that he was willing to suffer the loss of everything - for the excellence of knowing Christ Jesus.
- Profit
  - Not only that - but - Paul was ready to suffer the pain of persecution - so that more might be saved.
  - And in this way - Paul was seeking the everlasting profit of those who would place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Just to be clear - it'll help you to know that the word - profit - found there in verse 33 - was translated from a Greek word...
    - ...which was used to describe the advantageous benefits - that belong to those who trust in Jesus Christ.
    - And in light of this definition - we can see that Paul was willing to suffer the loss of everything...
      - ...so that he could help others to receive the advantageous benefits that belong to those who trust in Jesus Christ.
- Many
  - I like the way that the scholars who created the English Standard Version rendered verses 32 and 33 - they put it like this...
 

1Co 10:32 Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,  
1Co 10:33 just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.
  - When it came to the evangelistic endeavors that Paul was engaging in...
    - ...he wasn't seeking his own advantages - and he wasn't striving to secure his own benefits...

- ...no - instead - Paul was seeking the profit of those who would embrace the gospel of grace - by faith in Jesus Christ.
- Rather than looking for ways to cash in on the cross of Christ - Paul suffered the loss of everything - for the sake of others.
- And in this way - he did his best to avoid offense - as he proclaimed the message of the cross.

- Approach

- In order to grasp what this looked like - we should revisit something he said in the previous chapter of this epistle.
- Let's look back at 1st Corinthians chapter 9 - I wanna direct your attention to verse 16 - where Paul declared...

1Co 9:16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!

1Co 9:17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship.

1Co 9:18 What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel.

1Co 9:19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

1Co 9:20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law;

1Co 9:21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law;

1Co 9:22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

1Co 9:23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - describing the different ways that he tried to evangelize unbelievers - without offense.

- When he was witnessing to the Jews - he did his best to avoid offending the Jews - so that he might win Jews.
- And when he was witnessing to the Gentiles - he did his best to avoid offending the Gentiles - so that he might win more Gentiles.
- More simply put - Paul did his best to consider his audience - so that he might avoid unnecessary offense...
- ...and the reason why was because - he was trying to win souls - not arguments.
- Offense
  - Now - don't get me wrong - because - I have no doubt that Paul offended many people along the way.
  - The reason why was because - remember - the gospel message will offend those who are perishing.
  - Not only that - but - - the disciples of Christ diffuse the spiritual aroma of death - in the presence of those who reject Jesus.
  - That being the case - we can be certain that Paul was offending the people he was trying to reach.
  - And yet - at the same time - he was also doing everything he could - to avoid unnecessary offense...
  - ...as he set out to secure the spiritual profits of Salvation - for those who weren't yet saved.
- Offense
  - In light of his example - it's my prayer that we might all remember that - our evangelistic endeavors - should be accomplished - for the profit of others.

- With this as our goal - let's consider the way that Paul explained it - the letter that he sent to the church in Rome.
- Let's turn to Romans chapter 1 - and as we make our way to the first chapter of Romans...
- ...I wanna take a moment to point out that - the Christians who engage in evangelism - in order to win arguments with unbelievers...
- ...are failing to realize that - they might win the argument - - and yet - lose the soul.
- And listen - the person who loses the soul - for the sake of winning an argument - wasn't really seeking the profit of others.
- And it's for this reason that we should remember that - evangelism is all about the salvation of those who are lost.

## ● Application

- Debtor
- Let's consider how Paul put it - here in Romans chapter 1 - - look with me beginning there at verse 14 - where he declared....

Rom 1:14 I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise.

Rom 1:15 So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

- Now - as we consider how Paul felt no shame - as he presented the gospel message of grace...

- ...there are those who see this as a point of pride - as they set out to share their faith.
- And there are those who proudly present the gospel - as they assure their audience that they not ashamed.
- And yet - Paul wasn't boasting in his confidence that the gospel of Christ was correct...
  - ...no - instead - he saw himself as a person who was in debt to every unbeliever.
- Heart
  - It was with this heart of compassion that Paul set out to share the gospel message of grace...
  - ...without the unnecessary offense - of speaking to unbelievers in a way that would push them away.
  - Rather than standing in a public square - shouting slurs at the unbelievers who were passing by...
  - ...Paul took the time to connect with those he was trying to reach - as he set out to help them secure the everlasting profit of salvation.
  - And in light of his example - it's my prayer that we will all learn how to evangelize unbelievers - without offense...
  - ...so that the people we're trying to reach - might also received the everlasting profit of salvation.

## VI. Conclusion

- Wrap up
- Points
  - With this as the goal - I should remind you that...

1. ...Christians can engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking Peace with the people we're trying to reach.
  2. ...we also engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking to Please our God - so that we might also please others.
  3. ...And finally - we engage in evangelism without offense - by seeking the Profit of those who still need Jesus.
- And while we might be tempted to secure our own benefits - by winning arguments with unbelievers...
  - ...I encourage you to remember that - the Lord has called us to reveal His love for the lost - so that they might be saved.
  - And with this as our great commission - let's learn to Evangelize without offense...
  - ...so that we can help every unbeliever - to receive the free gift of grace - by which we are saved.