

Fighting the Right Battle

Acts 21.17-26

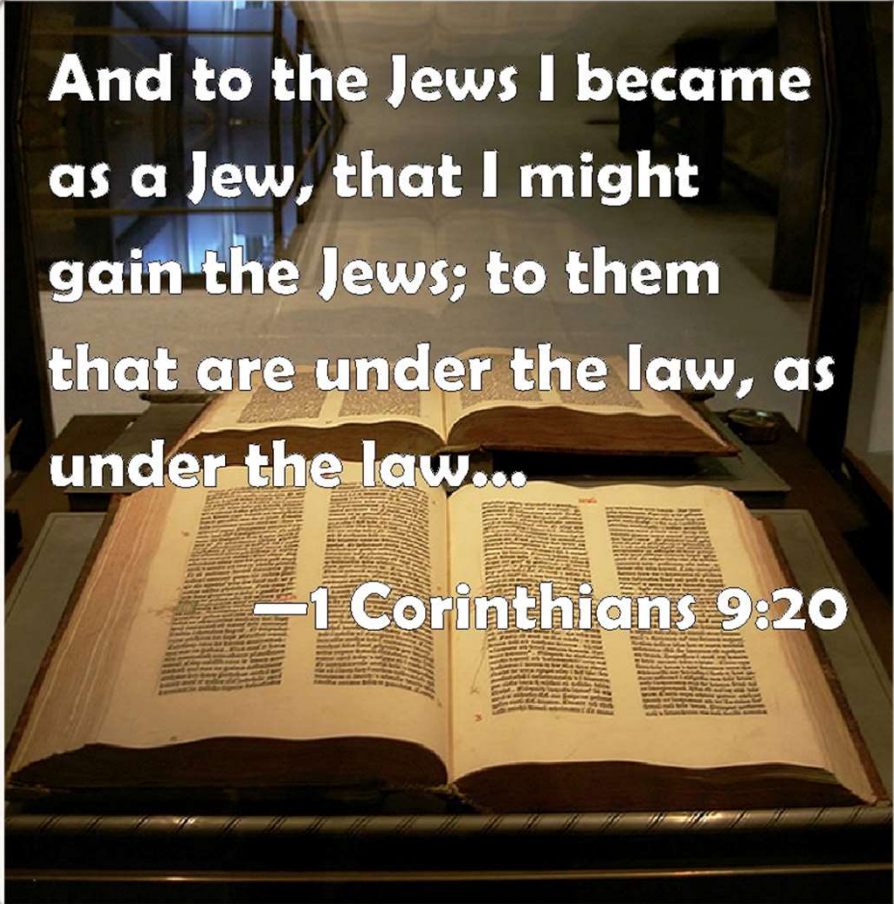
Paul Goes to Jerusalem

- Followers of Paul interpret the Spirit's guidance to lead them in different directions.
- The New Testament ministry of prophecy works a bit differently from the Old Testament.
- Both Paul and the Church has to follow Jesus' road of submission and determination.



Paul and the Jerusalem Church

- Jerusalem's leaders are fighting for unity in a divided age.
- Their fervor leads to misunderstanding motives and actions.
- They beckon him to publicly affirm his faithfulness at great personal risk.

An open Bible is shown lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The pages are filled with text, and the binding is visible in the center. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a library or study area with bookshelves.

**And to the Jews I became
as a Jew, that I might
gain the Jews; to them
that are under the law, as
under the law...**

—1 Corinthians 9:20

Shutting the Gates



- The danger begins with an ironic accusation.
- As the crowd shuts Paul from the temple, they are shutting themselves off to better things.
- Paul's rescue comes from unlikely sources.