

under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them ~~M~~ that are under the law " went into the Temple, took the vow upon him, had his ~~MMMM~~ hair cut, ~~MMMMMMMM~~ went through all the ceremonies there with them: to those under the law he became as under the law, that he might gain them that are under the law.

"To the weak, became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men" (he doesn't mean he did anything immoral, of course) (he doesn't mean that he did anything contrary to the commandment) (he doesn't mean that he fraternized in evil practices) but, he means, that in all that that is secondary and unimportant -- and yet the people consider so vital -- he was ready to conform to those among whom he came, in order that he might find a ~~MMM~~ point of contact and a way to reach them and a way to touch them for the Lord Jesus Christ.

"This I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the ~~MMM~~ prize? So run, that ye may obtain." That's not true in the Christian life, that only one receives the ~~MMM~~ prize; no, there's a prize for everyone ~~MMMM~~ in the Christian life that he can win, but Paul says you've got to work just as hard to get it as the one that wins in the race. And Paul did it.

And yet he says that in all this he has nothing to glory; after he ~~MMMMMMMM~~ wrote all those statements that DR. Stam read to us, in which he's trying to remind these people of what~~M~~ he's done, how he traveled, how he suffered, what he's gone through for their sakes -- after all this, he says, "I have nothing to glory in. If I glory in ~~anything~~ anything it'll be the fact that God has enabled me to understand His Word and to know His message and to see His truth. "Necessity is laid upon me: woe is me if I preach not the gospel." What an example Paul is, of the compulsion of the ministry, and how far