

THE 4 WANTS

Acts 14; 17; 22; 26

Part 1

“Connection”

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The Apostle Paul was a powerful evangelist. From the moment he was captured by grace on the road to Damascus, until he was martyred in Rome, he preached with passion and lived with conviction. Through the Word of God, his life still speaks.

In the book of Acts, four brief messages put Paul's story and message on display. In these short sermonettes Paul outlines four great needs of the human condition ... four wants that are answered in Christ.

PAUL ADDRESSES 4 WANTS

- You want **connection**.
- You want **purpose**.
- You want **forgiveness**.
- You want **proof**.

AN OVERLOOKED PIECE OF PAUL'S HEART

- Paul placed a high value on his heritage.
 - Note the theme of **contentment** (**3** times)
Phil. 4:11-13; 1 Tim. 6:8; 2 Cor. 12:10
 - Absent from the **body** ... **present** with the Lord (**4** times)
2 Cor. 5:1-8; Phil 1:20; 2 Tim. 4:7-8; 1 Thess. 4:13-18
 - Paul's **heritage** and history (**7** times)
Acts 21:39-40; 22:3; 26:4-7; Rom. 11:1-2; 2 Cor. 11:22-24;
Phil. 3:8; Gal. 1:13-15
- Why?
 - God has placed in the human heart a deep desire to connect...

- ✓ Sharing our story makes us **real**.
- ✓ Sharing our story helps others to picture **transformation**.
- ✓ Sharing our story helps others to consider their **story**.

CONNECTION POINT

• So, what was Paul's point?

- To the "**religious**," the "stable" and the "**secure**:"

A great **heritage** is **powerful** ... but **history** will not save you. Acts 22:1-8; 26:4-6; 9-14

- To the "**Gentiles**," the "lonely" and the "**outcast**:"

Hardships can be **inherited** ... but your history need not **hinder** you.

- To all:

Your desire for **connection finds** its greatest fulfillment in Christ.

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