

The Humanity of Spiritual Leaders

Acts 18:12-23



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- *"Therefore let no man glory in men."* **1 Corinthians 3:21**
- *"And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another."*
1 Corinthians 4:6
- Paul knew that spiritual leaders - including him - were merely human, and that believers must keep their eyes fastened upon Jesus Christ (the only perfect man).
- All believers must understand and accept the humanity of their spiritual leaders. How? Let's learn from our text today.

First, by understanding that spiritual leaders are subject to _____ circumstances - vs. 12-17

- Here we observe an entire group of people united by one common sentiment – a _____ for the apostle Paul. vs. 12-13
- Many believers fail to realize the intense spiritual _____ that their spiritual leaders face.
- When you are on the front lines, the battles and struggles are intense.
- Sometimes leaders get _____ and need encouragement. vs. 9-10

**Second, by realizing that spiritual leaders make
_____ - vs. 18-21**

- Paul left Corinth, Ephesus, and his ministries among these Gentiles in order to keep a Jewish _____ in Jerusalem.
- To make matters worse, Paul also took an Old Testament, Nazarite _____.
- If you are looking for _____ in leaders, you will end up very disappointed.

**Third, by recognizing that spiritual leaders battle
_____ like everybody else**

- Just as people tend to make their Bible heroes perfect, we tend to place our spiritual leaders on a pedestal and make them _____. Indeed they are not!