

**The Inside Look at a Minister (Part I):
A Compulsion to Preach and to Minister
1 Corinthians 09: 16–23**

1 *His compulsion:*
To preach the gospel

2 *His accountability:*
*Judgment and woe
if he fails to preach*

- a. If he preaches willingly,
he is rewarded
- b. If he preaches unwillingly,
he is still accountable

3 *His reward:*
*To gain the satisfaction
of preaching the gospel freely*

4 *His method:*
To become all things to all men

- a. He became as a Jew to the Jews
(the legalist)
- b. He became as a non-religionist
to the heathen
- c. He became as weak
to the weak Christian
- d. His purpose:
To save some
and to personally share in the gospel

16 Yet when I preach the gospel,
I cannot boast,
for I am compelled to preach.
Woe to me
if I do not preach the gospel!

17 If I preach voluntarily,
I have a reward;
if not voluntarily,
I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

18 What then is my reward?
Just this:
that in preaching the gospel
I may offer it free of charge,
and so not make use of my rights in preaching it.

19 Though I am free and belong to no man,
I make myself a slave to everyone,
to win as many as possible.

20 To the Jews I became like a Jew,
to win the Jews.
To those under the law
I became like one under the law
(though I myself am not under the law),
so as to win those under the law.

21 To those not having the law
I became like one not having the law
(though I am not free from God's law
but am under Christ's law),
so as to win those not having the law.

22 To the weak I became weak,
to win the weak.
I have become all things to all men
so that by all possible means I might save some.

23 I do all this for the sake of the gospel,
that I may share in its blessings.