

Lost In The Credits

Sosthenes

(Acts 18:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:1)

- Introduction:
1. The name, "Sosthenes" may ring a bell, but many of us may not be able to place it.
 2. We are going to look at the two places in Scripture this man is mentioned and make some points from what we know.

I. **Sosthenes in Acts 18:1-17**

- A. Paul comes to Corinth on his third missionary journey.
- B. Stays next door to the synagogue in the house of Jason.
- C. He converts the ruler of the synagogue (18:18).
- D. Stayed at taught 18 months.
- E. Paul was brought before the proconsul, Gallio.
- F. Gallio refuses to hear the charges so they take the ruler of the synagogue - Sosthenes and beat him.
 1. "They all" - Jews.
 2. "The Greeks."
 3. Why would either beat him?

II. **Sosthenes in 1 Corinthians 1:1**

- A. Paul sends greetings to Corinth and says, "hello" from Sosthenes.
- B. While it is not certain that this is the same man, it is more than probable.
- C. This man, who was formerly a ruler of the synagogue, has become a Christian.

III. **What are Some Lessons We Can Learn**

- A. Don't decide for people whether they are a candidate for the gospel.
 1. Sosthenes would probably not been one we would have tried to convert.
 2. June Agee - Convert the preacher in St. Croix.
- B. He was no doubt involved in this action taken against Paul, being the ruler of the synagogue.
 1. He was more than a "nominal" Jew.
 2. Faith without works is dead (James 2:24).
 3. He was zealous for what he believed to be the truth.
 4. (Romans 10:2).
- C. If it was the Jews who beat him, is it not true that ill-treatment of people can drive them away?
 1. (Ephesians 4:29-32).
 2. (Matthew 7:12).
 3. (Romans 12:15).
- D. He was open-minded and willing to change.
 1. (Acts 17:11-12).
 2. Think of what he was losing.
 3. Think of how hard it is to go against family and traditions.
- E. Crispus paved the way for Sosthenes.
 1. It's always easier to do something when you're not alone, right or wrong.
 2. Our example may be just what someone else needs to do the right thing.
- F. Salvation reconciles former enemies.
 1. (Romans 5:1).
 2. (Isaiah 11).