



THE BOOK OF ACTS

Part 91: A Question of Authority Chapter 20:22-27

Introduction

A. A Message for Those Who Would Serve

B. What Paul “Knew” & Didn’t “Know”

- **Acts 9:16; 2 Corinthians 11:23**
- **However** = Introduces a statement that contrasts with or seems to contradict something that has been said previously

I. The Key to His Steadfastness

A. How Did He Do It?

- **2 Timothy 2:3**

B. “Compelled by the Spirit”

- **Deo** = to bind, tie, fasten
 - Tethering an animal, to prevent it from straying around
 - Restraining a prisoner by fastening with chains
 - The binding of the bodies of the dead, which were accustomed to being bound with bandages and linen cloths
 - Metaphorically, to put under an obligation, or to be compelled by a conviction
- **1 Corinthians 7:39; Luke 13:16**
- **NLT**: Drawn there irresistibly by the Holy Spirit
- **2 Corinthians 5:14**
- **Ephesians 4:22-24**



II. A Question of Authority

A. Who Is “Really” in Charge?

- **KP Yohannan:** Unfortunately many Christians, even after decades of knowing the Lord, still remain shallow and carnal.... They have not really touched godliness. The reason is that they are still in control of “their lives” and God cannot mold them, for they are not like clay in the potter’s hand. Instead, they fight to save their lives, and in the end they lose them.
- **Tozer:** The only thinkable relation between us [God and man] is one of full Lordship on His part and complete submission on ours. We owe Him every honor that is in our power to give Him. Our everlasting grief lies in giving him anything less.
- **Isaiah 14:13; Genesis 3:5**
- **Sovereign =** Supreme ruler; supreme or ultimate power
- **Isaiah 64:8; Jeremiah 18:6; Isaiah 29:16; 45:9**
- **KP Yohannan:** Imagine the universe without order. Our massive galaxy, the Milky Way, would spiral out of control. Our solar system, our sun and all the planets would function chaotically. There would be collisions and, eventually, utter ruin. Instead as we look into the skies, we observe the perfect functioning of what God has fashioned.... We may never consider it, but the reason we don’t have a disordered universe today is because creation submits to the laws God established. If our moon complained, “I’ve been reflecting the sun’s light for a long time. I choose not to submit to that arrangement anymore,” it would, of course, be nothing but a dark spot in the sky.

B. The Essential Perspective

- **Ephesians 2:10; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20**
- **Romans 12:1**

III. “Here am I” or “Here I AM”