

## The Apostle Paul's

# Three Great "I Am"s

*Romans 1:13-22*

In Romans 1:14-16 Paul makes three "I Am" statements which relate to personal evangelism, and which are highly instructive:

1) **"I AM DEBTOR"** (*verse 14*). As a debtor, Paul owed something. He had an obligation, a Gospel duty. Elsewhere Paul wrote, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, **woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel**" (*1 Cor. 9:16*). If we were to discover a cure for cancer, would we keep it a secret? Would we not owe it to the world to give them the information which would save countless lives? Saul of Tarsus once felt an obligation to persecute every Christian, but later Paul felt an obligation to preach to every creature (*Mark 16:15*). Paul owed the Gospel to every member of the human race. Life is short; death is sure; sin the cause; **Christ the cure!**

2) **"I AM READY"** (*verse 15*). Paul was ready, willing and eager to share the good news concerning his Saviour. The Greek word for "ready" [*prothumos*] conveys a sense of eagerness, readiness, or willingness. It describes an eager attitude of being prepared to act or respond positively. It describes a disposition that is enthusiastic and ready to serve or obey. Paul was ready to preach the Gospel and looking for every opportunity to do so. Why not **prepare by prayer**, asking God to give opportunities, even today, to share with others?

3) **"I AM NOT ASHAMED"** (*verse 16*). Like Paul, Christians should **not be ashamed** of the Gospel, **nor should we be ashamed** of the Gospel by living contrary to its principles. If we are ashamed of the Gospel, then we are ashamed of Jesus Christ, the One whom the Gospel is all about.



**May we be as bold as a lion to share the good news!**

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)

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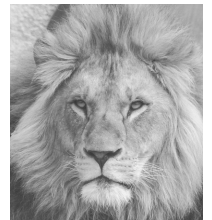
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