

Interesting Facts

That Many People Do Not Know

- Percentage of wilderness in Africa...28%
- Percentage of wilderness in N.A.....38%
- Cost of raising medium sized dog...\$6,400
- Average number of people airborne over the United States...approximately 61,000
- Statues in the park...person on a horse...
- **Shortest complete sentence: “I am.”**

“I Am” is the most complete and powerful sentence man has ever known!

- **God’s identity... “I Am” (Exodus 3:13-15)**
- **Christ’s identity... “I Am” (John 8:56-58)**
- **The great “I Am” statements of Christ...**
 - **The Bread of Life**
 - **The Light of the World**
 - **The Good Shepherd**
 - **The Way, the Truth, and the Life (etc)**

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

Paul said,

**“I AM
DEBTOR”**
(vs.14)



The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, “I AM DEBTOR”
 - *“I am debtor both to Greeks and Barbarians...the wise and...foolish” (14)*
 - NASV = *“under obligation”*
 - Not a material debt --- but a spiritual one
 - A debt we will never be able to repay
 - For our benefit... the death of Jesus Christ
 - All saved by blood of Christ owe this debt!

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, **“I AM DEBTOR”**
 - Saul of Tarsus – a persecutor of the Way
 - His conversion – commission to Gentiles
 - Preached in Asia, Europe, died in Rome
 - Why? This passage tells us why!
 - Paul said he had to pay this debt... ***“Woe be unto me, if I preach not the gospel...”***
(1 Cor. 9:16)

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, “I AM DEBTOR” (So am I)
 - To GOD, HIS SON -- MY SAVIOR JESUS
 - To PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS
 - To TEACHERS, PREACHERS
 - To FAMILY, WIFE, CHILDREN
 - To BRETHREN IN THE LORD
 - TO A WORLD OF LOST SOULS!
- Brethren, are we paying our debts?

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

Paul said,

**“I AM
READY”**

(vs. 15)



The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, “I AM READY”
 - *“So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you also...” (15)*
 - NASV = *“I am eager to preach”*
 - This is not a matter of preparation alone
 - But this is language that speaks of Paul’s determination...nothing would hold him back from what he must accomplish

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, “I AM READY”
 - Paul seemed to always be ready (eager)...
 - Ready to preach the gospel... Rom. 1:15
 - Ready to forgive and help... 2 Cor. 12:14
 - Ready to be persecuted, die...
Acts 21:13
 - Ready to be offered up... 2 Tim. 4:6

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, **“I AM READY”** (Eager)
 - Though he had enemies, hazards, etc.
 - Though he suffered a thorn in flesh
 - Though he had to forsake being married
 - Though he had to forsake riches, comfort
 - Though he did not have the blessing of freedom to preach... ***“necessity is laid on me”*** ... ***“prisoner of the Lord...”***

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, **“I AM READY”**
 - His example, eagerness, and energy put us to shame today!
 - Yes, we are committed...we are all here
 - But Paul’s readiness (eagerness) shows an **unrestricted commitment**
 - Brethren, are we ready to preach and teach the gospel?

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

Paul said,

**“I AM NOT
ASHAMED”**

(vs. 16)



The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul said, “I AM NOT ASHAMED”
 - *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation...” (16)*
 - Do you know someone ashamed...?
 - Paul might have been ashamed of...
 - * Being a Jew * His past life of persecuting
 - * His thorn in the flesh * His chain (prison)
- But he was not ashamed of the gospel !**

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul: **“I AM NOT ASHAMED of the gospel”**
 - Because of its **CHRIST...**
 - ***“a servant of Christ”*** (Rom. 1:1)
 - ***“For to me to live is Christ”*** (Phil. 1:21)
 - ***“I have been crucified with Christ: and it is no longer I that live, but Christ that liveth in me... the Son of God who loved me and gave himself up for me”***
(Gal. 2:20)

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul: **“I AM NOT ASHAMED of the gospel”**
 - Because of its **CONTENTS...**
 - ***“it is the power of God...” (16)***
 - Greek word “dunamis” = our “dynamite”
 - Dynamite blasts the rock in pieces
 - That is what the gospel does in the spiritual realm – blasts the rocklike resistance of sin-hardened hearts
(Jailer, Onesimus, Saul)

The “I AMs” of the Apostle Paul

Romans 1:14-17

- Paul: **“I AM NOT ASHAMED of the gospel”**
 - Because of its **CONCERN...**
 - ***“unto salvation...” (16)***
 - That is the concern of everyone who tells and teaches the gospel of Jesus
 - The gospel is ***“the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth...”***

Are you lost and ashamed?

- “Daddy, get me out!”
- Every sinner in that horrible pit of sin
- Only the Father has power to lift us...
- Only the gospel of Jesus can save...
- Ashamed of your past...present?
 - Jesus can wash you clean
 - Jesus can make your future sure