

# Paul's letters offer advice for today's Christians

The apostle Paul faced great challenges in his work as a Christian missionary, but he also received great blessings. He formed new congregations and saw many he had preached to grow in the faith.

He wrote letters to several congregations, including the Galatians, Ephesians and Philippians. The letters' purposes ranged from correcting false thinking to encouraging and comforting members of the congregations. Though some of the topics addressed aren't issues today, the entire contents of the books are valuable to Christians for direct counsel on issues we still face and for principles that apply to life today.

One of the congregations Paul wrote to was the one at Philippi. Acts 16:9-30 tells what happened when Paul preached in Philippi. Verses 13-15 tell us Paul preached to the women who gathered at the gate beside a river, one of whom was Lydia, a Jewish proselyte who then converted to Christianity. After that, Paul and his fellow



sharon corcoran

• use it or lose it

missionaries encountered a servant girl with a "demon of divination" who "used to furnish her masters with much gain by practicing the art of prediction."

Verse 18 tells us Paul cast out the demon. Verses 19 and 23-24 say: "Well, then her masters saw that their hope of gain had left, they laid hold of Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the rulers.... After they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them securely. Because he got such an order, he threw them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks."

Paul and Silas endured a beating and being thrown in prison for preaching the good news about

Christ. Did that stop them? Hardly. When they were released and told to leave the city, verse 40 says, "But they came out of the prison and went to the home of Lydia, and when they saw the brothers they encouraged them and departed."

Paul later wrote to the congregation in Philippi while he was imprisoned at Rome. Philippians 1:12-14 says, "Now I desire you to know, brothers, that my affairs have turned out for the advancement of the good news rather than otherwise, so that my bonds have become public knowledge in association with Christ among all the Praetorian Guard and all the rest; and most of the brothers in the Lord, feeling confidence by reason of my prison bonds, are showing all the more courage to speak the word of God fearlessly."

Paul's suffering and endurance spoke volumes about the strength he received from God, and it en-

couraged other Christians to endure the trials that came their way.

Why did Paul put up with such treatment and endure as a Christian? He knew his faith would be rewarded. He wrote to the Galatian congregation in Chapter 1, Verse 4: "He (Christ) gave himself for our sins that he might deliver us from the present wicked system of things according to the will of our God and Father."

The Galatians apparently were stumbling over human opinions, especially concerning whether circumcision was necessary. He reasoned with them on the value of circumcision compared to the value of faith and then said in Galatians 3:2: "This alone I want to learn from you: Did you receive the spirit due to works of law or

due to a hearing by faith?"

Christians today don't make an issue of circumcision, but this information applies to other areas of life. Do we think we can live however we want and then just show up at church on Sunday and it's fine? Do we think that as long as we donate a certain amount of money or volunteer our time, we are guaranteed a place in God's kingdom even if the good we did was to draw attention to ourselves?

Jesus made the comment about ones who strain out the gnat but gulp down the camel. That's what was cropping up in the congregation at Galatia — making a big issue of a little thing. The other issue was letting other people's opinions influence us more than God's word.

Paul wrote to the Ephesian con-

gregation at Ephesians 6:12, 13: "because we have a wrestling, not against blood and flesh, but against the governments, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the wicked spirit forces in the heavenly places. On this account take up the complete suit of armor from God, that you may be able to resist in the wicked day and, after you have done all things thoroughly, to stand firm."

Satan and his demons use many tactics to steer Christians away from the faith, from persecution to the erroneous thinking Paul warned Christians in his day to steer away from. The complete suit of armor is described in verses 14-18; having all the pieces in place protect Christians from all of Satan's devices.

## public notice

### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. for an Order Permitting the Drilling of the Ihrig, O. #34-18H Well to be Drilled Horizontally in the Niobrara Formation, pursuant to K.A.R. § 82-3-103a Upon Certain Lands in Sherman County, Kansas.

Docket No. 07-CONS-128-CHOR  
KCC License No. 33019  
CONSERVATION DIVISION

#### NOTICE OF PENDING APPLICATION

TO: ALL OIL AND GAS PRODUCERS, UNLEASED MINERAL INTEREST OWNERS, LANDOWNERS, AND ALL PERSONS WHOMSOEVER CONCERNED.

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. has filed an Application before the Kansas Corporation Commission to permit the drilling of a well, known as the Ihrig, O. #34-18H well, having a deviation in the well bore exceeding 7 degrees in the Niobrara formation upon certain lands in Sherman County, Kansas, at the following surface location:

125' FSL and 2,450' FEL of Section 18, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

The intended bottom hole location of the Ihrig, O. #34-18H well at the end of the horizontal portion of said well will be at:

2,320' FSL and 1,320' FEL of Section 18, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

Any persons who object or protest to such Application shall be required to file their objections or protests with the Kansas Corporation Commission within fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication. If any protests are timely filed, a hearing will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at the Kansas Corporation Commission, 130 S. Market, Room 2078, Wichita, KS 67202.

All parties in any way interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and govern themselves accordingly.

ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC.  
2711 N. Haskell Ave., Suite 2800, LB #22  
Dallas, Texas 75204

David E. Bengtson  
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Attorneys for Applicant

Published in The Goodland Star-News, Tuesday, December 26, 2006.

### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. for an Order Permitting the Drilling of the Leonard #34-29H Well to be Drilled Horizontally in the Niobrara Formation, pursuant to K.A.R. § 82-3-103a Upon Certain Lands in Sherman County, Kansas.

Docket No. 07-CONS-130-CHOR  
KCC License No. 33019  
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125' FSL and 1,390' FEL of Section 29, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

The intended bottom hole location of the Leonard #34-29H well at the end of the horizontal portion of said well will be at:

2,500' FNL and 400' FEL of Section 29, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

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### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. for an Order Permitting the Drilling of the Brendt #14-27H Well to be Drilled Horizontally in the Niobrara Formation, pursuant to K.A.R. § 82-3-103a Upon Certain Lands in Sherman County, Kansas.

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530' FSL and 125' FWL of Section 27, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

The intended bottom hole location of the Brendt #14-27H well at the end of the horizontal portion of said well will be at:

2,284' FSL and 1,570' FWL of Section 27, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

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### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. for an Order Permitting the Drilling of the Duell #34-27H Well to be Drilled Horizontally in the Niobrara Formation, pursuant to K.A.R. § 82-3-103a Upon Certain Lands in Sherman County, Kansas.

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You, and each of you, are hereby notified that ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. has filed an Application before the Kansas Corporation Commission to permit the drilling of a well, known as the Duell #34-27H well, having a deviation in the well bore exceeding 7 degrees in the Niobrara formation upon certain lands in Sherman County, Kansas, at the following surface location:

226' FSL and 2,225' FEL of Section 27, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

The intended bottom hole location of the Duell #34-27H well at the end of the horizontal portion of said well will be at:

3,080' FNL and 890' FEL of Section 27, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

Any persons who object or protest to such Application shall be required to file their objections or protests with the Kansas Corporation Commission within fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication. If any protests

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### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. for an Order Permitting the Drilling of the Duell #14-28H Well to be Drilled Horizontally in the Niobrara Formation, pursuant to K.A.R. § 82-3-103a Upon Certain Lands in Sherman County, Kansas.

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You, and each of you, are hereby notified that ROSEWOOD RESOURCES, INC. has

filed an Application before the Kansas Corporation Commission to permit the drilling of a well, known as the Duell #14-28H well, having a deviation in the well bore exceeding 7 degrees in the Niobrara formation upon certain lands in Sherman County, Kansas, at the following surface location:

125' FSL and 280' FWL of Section 28, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

The intended bottom hole location of the Duell #14-28H well at the end of the horizontal portion of said well will be at:

3,000' FNL and 1,730' FWL of Section 28, Township 7 South, Range 39 West, Sherman County, Kansas.

Any persons who object or protest to such Application shall be required to file their objections or protests with the Kansas Corporation Commission within fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication. If any protests are timely filed, a hearing will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at the Kansas Corporation Commission, 130 S. Market, Room 2078, Wichita, KS 67202.

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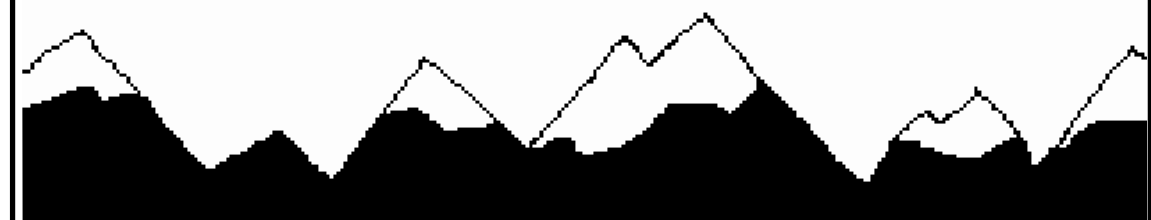
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