

Playing it safe

- Acts 9:15
- A current boast of big companies is the number of accident/incident free days.
- It is not uncommon to see a sign at the entrance of a plant announcing this information.
- As good as this is for businesses, this should not be the goal of the Lord's church.

Playing it safe

- I'm afraid as Christians we have focused too much on our safety.
 - Safety in our auditoriums
 - Safety in our homes
 - Safety in our silence
 - Safety in our camouflage
 - Safety in our riches

Playing it safe

- It's time for us to stop playing it safe and
START PLAYING IT SAVED!!!
- Are we more concerned about doing right and
pleasing God than avoiding controversy or
difficulties?
- Joseph of Arimathea was a man who played it
safe!- John 19:38

Playing it safe

- What do the following passages of Scripture have in common?
 - Jeremiah 1:17-19
 - Matt. 10:26-31
 - Acts 9:15
 - II Tim. 2:3
 - I Peter 3:13-17; 4:12-16
- Servants of God are asked to put themselves to the hazard!!!!

Playing it safe

- As Christians we are sometimes asked to spend the night in the lion's den or walk in the fiery furnace.
- But we want to play it safe.
- We subscribe to the notion that “it is better to be safe than sorry” but when we apply this to serving God I'm afraid we are going to be both safe and sorry.
- Sometimes even our brethren encourage this approach- Acts 21:10-13

Playing it safe

- What does it mean to “play it safe?”
 - We will not be afraid of the earthly consequences of living righteously.
 - Ministers will not be afraid of getting fired for preaching truths that sting the ear.
 - We will not be swayed to ignore sin and opportunities for fear of rejection.
 - We will not be afraid of losing members because we point out their obvious disregard for God’s Word.

Playing it safe

- What does it mean to “play it saved?” (continued)
 - Phil. 1:21- *“For me to live is Christ and to die is gain.”*
 - Heb. 13:6- *“I will not fear what man can do to me.”*
 - We will not be as concerned about the church’s bottom line but how the church is presented at the end of time.
- Church it is time for us to stop playing it safe and start playing it **SAVED!**