

“THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF CHRIST”

ROMANS 1:8-17

TEXT: VERSE 16

INTRO: WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? That may sound like a redundant question to ask in a church service full of believers in Christ but then again **HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER THAT QUESTION?** I fear that sometimes we talk about the Gospel, sing about the Gospel and even make efforts to share the Gospel but yet we fail to understand the actual DEPTH OF THE GOSPEL. So, today we are going to study one of the KEY TEXTS of the Gospel so as to learn more about that which we have spoken of for years.

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DEFINITION OF THE GOSPEL:

1) Originally the word denoted a REWARD given for GOOD TIDINGS. But later the idea of REWARD was dropped off and the word GOSPEL came to stand for **GOOD NEWS.**

2) In the N.T. usage “GOSPEL” denotes **THE GOOD TIDINGS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND OF SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST, TO BE RECEIVED BY FAITH, ON THE BASIS OF HIS SACRIFICIAL DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN.**

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I. THE PRIDE OF THE GOSPEL

“FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL”

DEFINITION OF “ASHAMED”: **“To have a feeling of fear or shame which prevents a person from doing something that should be done.”**

OBSERVATION ABOUT PAUL’S STATEMENT ON NOT BEING ASHAMED:

Paul said that he was not ashamed of the Gospel AFTER he had been:

- Imprisoned for the Gospel – Acts 17:10
- Smuggled out of town for the Gospel – Acts 17:14
- Laughed at because of the Gospel – Acts 17:32
- Stoned and left for dead because of the Gospel – Acts 14:19
- Suffered greatly for the Gospel – 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

POINT OF REALITY: **Neither ridicule, criticism, nor physical persecution could curb Paul’s BOLDNESS in preaching the Gospel. WHY?**

- A. Because of What the Gospel Is
 - Luke 2:10: GOOD TIDINGS
- B. Because of What the Gospel Does
 - Luke 2:11: A SAVIOR WHO OFFERS SALVATION

THOSE WHO HAVE TRULY BELIEVED THE GOSPEL ARE NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL – Romans 9:33; 10:11

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE PERSON OF THE GOSPEL

“THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST”

NOTE: **Without Christ there would be NO GOSPEL! IT IS ALL ABOUT CHRIST!**

- A. Christ is the ONLY Begotten Son of God (Note the theological reality)
 - 1. Jesus is the ONLY EXACT representation of the Person and Character of God
 - 2. Jesus is ETERNALLY RELATED to God the Father as His Eternal Son
 - 3. Jesus is the ONLY ONE to have such a deep relation with God the Father
 - 4. Jesus has an INTIMACY with God the Father we cannot comprehend
 - 5. Jesus is the ONLY MANIFESTATION of God’s will, love and grace
- B. Christ is the ONLY qualified sacrifice for our Sin
 - 1. Jesus was TOTALLY God and Man – Philippians 2:6-8
 - 2. Jesus was TOTALLY Sinless – Hebrews 4:15
- C. Christ is the ONLY true source of Salvation – John 14:6

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

“POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION”

NOTE: **Only the power of the Gospel can bring salvation.**

- A. The Power of the Gospel is Divine Power
(“Power” is “DUNAMIS” = Dynamite)

1. The Gospel is effective because it carries with it the OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD which is beyond human comprehension. Psalm 33:8,9; Isaiah 43:13

2. The Gospel is effective because ONLY GOD'S POWER is able to overcome our sinful nature and give us new life. Romans 8:3; John 1:12

B. The Power of the Gospel brings Salvation

NOTE: "SALVATION" means "DELIVERANCE" OR "RESCUE"

1. The Power of the Gospel DELIVERS believers:

- a. From Spiritual Lostness – Matthew 18:11
- b. From The Wrath of God – Romans 5:9
- c. From Spiritual Ignorance – 2 Thessalonians 1:8
- d. From Evil self-indulgence – Luke 14:27
- e. From Spiritual Darkness – Colossians 1:13

2. The Power of the Gospel RESCUES believers:

-From eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire – Revelation 20:6

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. THE PROSPECTS OF THE GOSPEL

"EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVES"

A. The People

"Everyone"

-No one is excluded or denied the Gospel!

B. The Process

"That Believes"

THREE COMPONENTS OF "BELIEVE " THAT BRINGS SALVATION

1. The Mental Component

-Understanding the Gospel and the Truth about Christ.

-Romans 10:14-17

2. The Emotional Component

-Embracing the Truth about Christ with sorrow over sin and repentance.

-Romans 6:17

3. The Volitional Component

-Submitting one's will to Christ and trusting Christ ALONE as the ONLY source of salvation.

-Romans 10:9

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION/APPLICATION:

1) We should truly give God praise for the Gospel without which we would not be saved.

2) We should share the Gospel so that others may come to know the Lord