

The Gospel. 23.9.18

The power of God to change lives, throughout our Christian life.

1Co 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel (glad tidings, good message, Good news) which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; (Isa 53. 5-12) 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: (Psalm 16.9-10)

How to be saved is revealed through the preaching of the Gospel.

Vs 1..The Gospel is the good news, which after you received it, you stand... it empowers you, to be firm, to be fixed, to keep you in place, to be immovable. The Gospel helps you stand for something.. Then comes Vs 2.. by which you are also saved The gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ the righteous one, who died for our sins, and rose again from the dead, so that all those who accept this by faith and believe in their hearts may have everlasting joy and salvation in the presence of the Father.

We must never think that we out grow the need for the Gospel of Jesus Christ or that its only for salvation...and then we do the rest.

Romans 1 v 16-17 For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also the Greek.

Vs 17.. For in it is the righteousness of God Revealed from faith to faith: as it is written the just shall live by faith. "For in it (the gospel) the righteousness of God (mercy over judgement) is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written "the just shall live by faith".

The ability to stand right before God is revealed – through the gospel.

Reveal – to uncover: To lay open what has been revealed, to manifest, to take off the covers.

(v17) this revealing is faith to faith. The just shall live by faith.

The gospel is a journeyit's taking us to be more like Christ.

God's wrath is also revealed from heaven through the Gospel.

Vs 18.. for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

- Against all ungodliness and unrighteousness because (v18)
- The bible says they hold the truth in unrighteousness. They see God everywhere. The world is the gospel. But foolishly they turn aside. Eg.. programs that show the wonder of God and declare it as evolution
- Became (v19) (v 22) God shows himself in all things.

Vs 19-22 because what may be known of God is manifest in them for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because although they knew God they did not glorify him as God nor were thankful but became futile in their thoughts and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise they became fools. But they refuse to bow, submit and obey Him.

This is the gospel showing us what to do, to be saved. This is the gospel warning of impending wrath on those who do sin without repentance.

There are other Gospels being preached.

- The gospel of evolution Gal 1-8,.. but even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we preached to you let him be accursed.

- The gospel of your okay, your self-sufficient, you're the king. That was Saul's gospel, before his salvation Phil 3 v 5-6. Circumcised on the 8th day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews, concerning the law a Pharisee, zeal I persecuted the church, concerning the righteousness of the Law blameless. Paul went on to say I consider all that as dung that I may attain Christ.
- The gospel of I'm in control of my life, my body, my future, my security, my happiness.

Rom 1 v 16 When Paul wrote I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God to salvation...he was downloading a powerful thought that is revealed by the Holy Spirit.
The Gospel strengthens us

Rom 16 v 25-27 'Now unto him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ. According to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now manifest and by the prophetic scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandments of the everlasting God for obedience to faith. To God alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever amen.'

So the gospel that strengthens is in the preaching of Jesus Christ. For the gospel to work it has to be obeyed by faith.

Who is the central theme and reality of the Gospel? Jesus This gospel is according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept a secret for a long time.

That mystery is that the gentile nation would have full citizenship of heaven as the Jews.

God wants us strong, He doesn't want us weak. God is magnified by making you strong. God gets the glory when we believe and have faith in the Gospel. (v26)... according to the commandments of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith.

God gets the glory, He is lifted high when we apply the gospel to :

- Our family
- Our relationships – restoring broken relationships
- Our marriage, repent when I do the wrong thing.. – 1Peter 3 v 7 Husbands likewise dwell with them with understanding, give honour to the wife as to the weaker vessel and as being heirs together of the grace of life that your prayers may not be hindered.
- To those around us who are yet to believe

The substance of this strength is faith in Jesus Christ 1 Cor 1 v 18 'for the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.'

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.

Matthew 13. 44 'Again the kingdom of heaven is like hidden treasure in a field which a man found and hid. And for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

The main lesson from this parable is that in losing everything on earth, in selling all that we have, our pride and self opinions aside, our wanting to right all the wrongs is nothing compared to having the possession of Jesus Christ as Lord.

He is the centre of life itself? Col 1 v 17 and He is before all things and in Him all things consist.