

DECLARING THE GOSPEL

YOU MUST KNOW THE GOSPEL BEFORE YOU CAN PREACH THE GOSPEL

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved..."

~ 1 Corinthians 15:1

1. The Gospel Problem

- a. The biggest problem in Christianity is a gospel problem.
- b. Gospel ~*def.* Good news; particularly, the terms or message of salvation. Rom 10:15
- c. Where do you stand? What is it? Can you state it? What do you believe saves you?
- d. Man-made gospels add confusion: accept Jesus, Lord of your life, loving Jesus, etc.

2. The Gospel Jesus Gave to Us

- a. There is a gospel that saves– Rom 1:16, Eph 1:13
- b. Many believe in vain by believing another gospel – 2Cor 4:3, 11:3-4, 1 Cor 15:1-2
- c. The gospel declared clearly in 1 Cor 15:3-4, Rom 3:21-26, 4:24-25

3. Different Gospels

- a. Different gospels are not obvious to everyone.
- b. Gospel of Christ = Requires the cross to be preached - 1 Cor 1:17-18, Rom 1:16
- c. Gospel of the kingdom – Matt 9:35, Matt 10:5-8, Lk 9:1-6
 - i. Does not require the cross – Luke 18:31-34, Mk 9:30-32, 16:5-14, Lk 24:1-12
 - ii. Does not require the resurrection – Mk 16:5-14, Lk 24:1-12, John 20:1-11
- d. Gospel of circumcision: blessing to/through Israel-1Pe 1:12, Act 2:36,3:12-26,Ro 15:8
- e. Gospel of uncircumcision: circumcision avails nothing - Rom 4:10, Gal 6:15, Col 2:13
- f. These are gospels from God, but they clearly speak of different messages.

4. Same Gospel

- a. Words mean things, and different words can be used to refer to the same thing.
- b. Gospel of God (Rom 1:1) and gospel of Christ (1:16) – See Rom 15:16 and 15:19
- c. Glorious gospel of God vs. glorious gospel of Christ – 1 Tim 1:11 and 2 Cor 4:4
- d. Gospel of grace of God vs gospel of grace of Christ – Acts 20:24 and Gal 1:6-7
- e. "the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ" – 2 Th 1:8, 1:12
- f. The message/context determines similarity, not only name (e.g Mk 1:1, 1:14)

5. Declaring the Gospel

- a. Declaring the gospel today means ...
 - i. Holding fast to the hope of the gospel – Col 1:23
 - ii. Striving for the faith of the gospel – Phi 1:27
 - iii. Standing for the truth of the gospel – Gal 2:5, 14
 - iv. Knowing the mystery of the gospel – Eph 6:19, 3:6
 - v. Seeing souls saved by the gospel – 1 Cor 4:15, 9:18-23