

June 17, 2018 18047-A #4

Romans 1:16-17 part 1

Eager to Preach

**I. Jesus came to forgive sins. Mark 2:1-12**

**A. *The most shocking thing he did was forgive evil people...***

**II. Now, that same message is on our lips. The gospel. Romans 1:1-6.**

**A. Paul had it right: Jesus Christ is the Living and Saving Lord. 1:1-6.**

1. A new and saving King—Jesus Messiah.
2. God in the Flesh.
3. Dead and Resurrected.
4. Offering Grace through Faith.
5. News, not advice.

**B. And it motivated Him to preach. 1:15-17.**

1. Eagerness to announce this news.

**III. Why was Paul unashamed and eager to preach the gospel? Four Reasons.**

**A. It is the power of God...1 Peter 1:23-25**

1. *The message of the gospel itself has power, God the Holy Spirit's power.*
  - a) Imperishable seed of the word of God, the gospel.
  - b) Life comes from seed. People, plants, animals, all seeds.
2. *Christ's Word is the power of the Holy Spirit. Jn.6:63*

**B. For salvation...Acts 17:30-31**

1. *Because we need to be rescued more than we need to be advised.*
  - a) There is a danger to the human soul that our world denies.
2. *Our culture ridicules the idea of judgment, of answering to God.*
  - a) But we are all standing on the edge of it. Death is certain.

**C. Because in it the Righteousness of God is being revealed. Rom.3:21-22a**

1. Righteousness:
  - a) State of him who is as he ought to be, like God. Matt.5:48
  - b) Integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting.
2. A righteousness that comes directly from God.
  - a) A God kind of righteousness" given to us. Phil. 3:9. 2 Cor. 5:21
  - b) A new sort of righteousness made available by faith.
3. Is being revealed.
  - a) It is currently flowing, right now being revealed.
4. *Infinitely more than just forgiveness—this is the bestowal of God's own goodness on you, instantly and forever*

**D. From Faith to/for Faith. (Hab.2:4; Rom.10:9-10)**

1. It's about simple *faith from first to last* (NIV)
  - a) NIV, "the one who is righteous by faith, will live."
2. **To everyone who believes 16b...Rom.10:9-10**
3. Any and all people.
  - a) All people need to know this, Jews, Greeks, Wise, Foolish.
  - b) All people need to repent and believe this...
4. Simple, repentant, personal trust.
  - a) **Notitia.** Awareness of the truth of the gospel.
  - b) **Assensus.** Mental assent to the truth of who Jesus Christ is and what He has done.
  - c) **Fiducia.** Vital, personal, repentant trust.

#### IV. What does this mean for us? It depends on who you are.

- A. If you are a moralistic and guilty Christian, not aware of the grace of Christ.
  - 1. Realize that He has justified you forever, right now. Rom.5:1
  - 2. Your standing with God is not grounded in your personal holiness, it is grounded in Christ's obedience and your trust in His Person, Work, and Grace.
  - 3. Can people who know about Christ fall into ignorance of grace?
- B. If you are a hesitant and fearful Christian, not eager to speak of Christ
  - 1. Stop feeling guilty about that, and re-acquaint yourself with the gospel.
  - 2. Don't just learn a technique for selling, ask God to deepen your understanding and appreciation for the message itself.
  - 3. People don't have to be persuaded to talk about things they are impressed with.
  - 4. The gospel is the best news anybody will ever hear. Period.
- C. If you are a misinformed pre-Christian, thinking this is about religion. I
  - 1. This offer from God Himself is a free gift of justification, not a new religious regimen.
  - 2. But you must respond to the news.
    - a) We are not in Christ until we turn around (repent) and trust Him as the True and Saving Lord.
    - b) We are not born as Christians, we must be born again. Jn.3:3