



Northside Proclaimer

Proclaiming The Word Of The Lord

1 Thessalonians 1:8

Northside church of Christ Welcomes You!

August 24, 2014

“The Gospel I Preached To You”

Bryan Garlock

As recorded in the book of Acts, Paul was instrumental in bringing many of the Corinthians to Christ (Acts 18:8). He later penned in a letter to the church of Christ in Corinth, “[n]ow I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain” (1 Cor. 15:1-2).

Many today are confused about the gospel of Jesus Christ. I’ve heard it said before that there isn’t just one gospel, but many. Nowhere in Scripture can this be supported. It is true that we have the four gospel[s] of Jesus Christ found in the New Testament. These four books named Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are simply four different accounts of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus. But there is only one gospel or “good news” about Him. Further, Jude recorded, “contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints” (3).

When Paul delivered “the gospel” and “the faith” was delivered to the saints as Jude wrote, they delivered essentially the same thing. No wonder Paul wrote, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Eph. 4:5). Many gospels, or faiths, are introduced as one tries to distort or twist the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul admonished the churches in Galatia for turning to a different gospel, not that there is another, for there is only one gospel as we have already established (cf. Gal. 1:6-9).

In keeping with our subject of the gospel Paul preached, he could not refer to the Old Testament Scriptures for the saving power of the gospel because there simply is no power to be found there. True, the Old Scriptures make us wise unto salvation (2 Tim. 3:15) and have brought us to Christ (Gal. 3:24), but since grace and truth came by Jesus (John 1:17), no other source would suffice (John 14:6; Rom. 1:16). It was necessary, then, for Paul to deliver something new, something unrevealed beforehand, in order to teach and save the Corinthians from their sins. *Continued on back...*

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church Of Christ

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Announcements

- Tyler Dance is doing well; remember Lisa too.
- Remember the shut in's.
- Pray for the church and one another.
- Men's Bible study starting soon!
- Teen's Bible study starting soon!
- Call or email me to add announcements, thanks.

Tell
Your
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About
Our
Website!

Where then do we go to find the gospel that Paul delivered to the Corinthians? There is only one place: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. You see, the message he preached orally is the same message recorded for us today in these four books. Paul told the Galatians that the gospel he preached unto them he had received through a revelation of Jesus Christ (Gal. 1.11-12) and it was the same "form of doctrine which was delivered [to the saints at Rome]" (Rom. 6.17, KJV). It is fundamental, then, that we understand that Paul taught the same gospel in every church (1 Cor. 4.17).

Let it be understood, Paul could only reveal to the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians and Thessalonians that which he had received from God and Jesus through the Holy Spirit! The Old Scriptures would not suffice. True, they had to harmonize with his teaching (cf. 1 Cor. 15.3-4), but it was what Jesus revealed that he taught! Paul testifies to this in 1 Cor. 2.6-13. Please read this passage. Notice verse 9 says that God had not previously (in the Old Testament) revealed the things He had prepared for those that love Him. Verse 10 and following shows that God had revealed those things to the apostles only.

Since the apostles were ministers of the New Covenant only, (cf. 2 Cor. 3.6) Paul could only deliver that which Jesus revealed to him (Gal. 1.11-12). Furthermore, Paul preached the same message as the apostles Matthew and John preached or else there would have been two gospels. Better yet, let me say it this way, if the apostles wrote a different gospel after Pentecost than Paul preached, then they will be "accursed" (Gal. 1.6-10). Though Mark and Luke were not apostles, they were inspired men who recorded what the Holy Spirit revealed to them (2 Peter 1.21). Thus, the message Paul preached and delivered to the saints MUST have been the same message as the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, as we have recorded today in our New Testament canon*. BG

*Canon: The books of the Bible recognized as genuine and inspired

A Test To Determine If We Have Forgiven *Larry Rouse*

Do we get pleasure in their hurt?
Do we intentionally avoid being in their presence?
Do we vividly remember what we have suffered?
Are we uncomfortable when they are praised?
Do we go out of the way to be helpful to that person?
Are we willing to pray for the person, Matt. 5.43-45?