

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

Intro: The gospel is the most powerful item in all the world today. It has the greatest potential of anything mankind has ever known. Its effects and its benefits are beyond human comprehension. The gospel is from God - the creator of the Universe. It is the "good news" of Salvation. (Jn 3:16)

Romans 1:16-17:

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

Paul describes the Gospel of Christ as "the power of God." Why did he do so?
What power does it have?

I. GOSPEL PRODUCES FAITH.

- A. Gospel called "Word of Faith." (Rom 10:8)
- B. Faith comes by hearing the Gospel. (Rom 10:17)
 - 1. Faith in God.
 - 2. Faith in Christ.
 - 3. Faith in Christ's words. (Jn 20:30-31)
- C. The Gospel must be preached. (Rom 10:14-15, Mk 16:15-16)
- D. Faith in the Gospel purifies the heart. (Acts 15:7-9)

II. GOSPEL PRODUCES REPENTANCE.

- A. Gospel causes us to want to change. (Acts 2:37-38)
- B. Godly sorrow (repentance) produces change. (II Cor 7:9-11)
- C. God wants all to hear the Gospel and Repent. (II Pet 3:9)
- D. Christ's gospel called for and produced repentance. (Lk 5:32, Mk 1:15)
- E. Repentance is a step "unto" (in direction of) salvation. (Acts 2:38)

III. GOSPEL EXPOSES US FOR WHAT WE REALLY ARE.

- A. Gospel exposes our deepest secrets. (Heb 4:12-13)
- B. Gospel is the mirror for our lives. (James 1:21-25)
 - 1. Must heed what we see in the mirror.
 - 2. God's mirror is the only things that reflects true image.
 - 3. Hearing Gospel is not enough. Doing is the key. Active interest.

IV. GOSPEL REVEALS GOD AS HE ACTUALLY IS.

- A. By knowing ourselves and by knowing God we can then make corrections.
- B. Gospel reveals Christ. (Heb 1:1-2)
- C. In knowing Christ, we know God. (Jn 14:7)
- D. The Holy Spirit brought us this message about God. (Jn 14:26)

V. GOSPEL SAVES US.

- A. Paul preached D.B.R. of Christ = gospel = salvation. (I Cor 15:1-4)
- B. Salvation only in Christ. (Acts 4:10-12)
- C. Obedience to Gospel is necessary. (Acts 2:38, I Tim 4:16)