

The Gospel Truth

2 Timothy 2:8-10

Introduction:

- A. Sayings society got directly from the Bible
 - 1. Eat, drink, and be m_____ (Eccl 8:15; Lk 12:19)
 - 2. By the skin of your t_____ (Job 19:20)
 - 3. The handwriting on the w_____ (Dan 5)
 - 4. The gospel truth (many places)
- B. The gospel is the absolute truth and there are three statements in our text that are important:
 - 1. In the understanding of who C_____ is.
 - 2. In the understanding of God's p_____.
 - 3. In the understanding of our p_____ in God's plan.

Remember the person of the gospel (8)

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel.

- A. False teachings
 - 1. One false teaching was that Jesus and Christ were two separate beings. Jesus was the h_____ and Christ was the divine spirit (see I Jn 2:22)
 - 2. Another false teaching was that Jesus only a_____ to be human but was not.
- B. Who is the person of the gospel? J_____
 - 1. He is the C_____ as prophesied in the O.T.
 - a. Is 9:6 – the mighty _____
 - b. Is 7:14 – Immanuel, which means “_____ with us”
 - c. Jer 23:5,6 – descendant of David
 - d. STOP searching for God! He came to us in Jesus Christ!
 - 2. He is risen from the d_____
 - a. This requires Jesus Christ to d_____
 - b. Jesus did not rise from the dead like Lazarus who died again. Jesus lives f_____ (Rev 1:18)
 - c. His resurrection demonstrated
 - 1) His payment for s_____ was successful (Matt 20:28; Lk 18:32,33).
 - 2) His p_____ over sin and death (I Cor 15:17)
 - d. There is a false teaching floating around in modern Christianity that Christ's resurrection was not physical but spiritual (Jehovah's Witnesses; those who mix Eastern philosophy with Christianity) – see Lk 24:37-39; Jn 20:25-27; 1 Cor 15:51-57)

Realize the power of the gospel (9)

For which gospel I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.

A. Paul's imprisonment

1. The Roman Emperor, N_____, thought that by eliminating Christianity's prominent leader, he would eliminate Christianity.
2. Paul's imprisonment ended in his b_____.
3. Neither Paul's imprisonment nor his death kept the gospel m_____ from spreading.

B. Historical study on Christian persecution

1. Roman persecution (64 A.D. – 313 A.D.) – Christianity flourished
2. Reformation period (1500's) – Christianity flourished
3. Modern persecution (Moslem countries; China) – Christianity is flourishing.

C. Biblical references to the continual spread of the gospel

1. Matt 24:14 – the gospel WILL be preached to _____ the nations (Greek word for nations is ethnos = ethnic groups)
2. Rev 5:9,10 – envisions all those whom Jesus effectively purchased with His blood – people from e_____ tribe, tongue, people, and nation.
3. Rev 7:9,10 – envision a multitude made up of every tribe, tongue, nation, and people w_____ God and praising Him for their salvation.
4. The gospel cannot be stopped!

Relate to the proclamation of the gospel (10)

I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus.

A. Paul endured his hardship for the sake of the _____

1. The "chosen" or "elect" refer to all those who have trusted in Christ and all those who will trust in Him. This emphasizes God's initiative.
 - a. The only reason we love God is because He loved us f_____ (1 Jn 4:19)
 - b. The only reason we came to Christ is because the Father d_____ us to Him (Jn 6:44)
 - c. The only reason we repent from our sinful orientation is because the S_____ convicted us of our sinfulness (Jn 16:8,9)
2. Those who were called the chosen

- a. The Thessalonian believers (2 Thess 2:13)
 - b. The believers P_____ wrote to (1 Pet 1:1)
 - c. All those who will be with Jesus at His r_____ (Rev 17:14) which includes all believers for all time (1 Thess 4:14-17).
- B. Our responsibility is not to figure out who might be chosen but to e_____ the hardships of life so that those in our mission field be saved.
1. Parents and grandparents immediate mission field is their kids and grandkids – are you l_____ in such a way that they see that Jesus makes a difference in your life?
 2. Every believer's mission field are the l_____ around them – are you living in such a way that they see that Jesus makes a difference in your life?
 3. Every believer's extended mission field is the world – are you sacrificially g_____ to the spread of the gospel message?