



CHRIST THE KING
ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER IN HIM



Basic Christianity: Part 2

Colossians 1.5b-8

Main Idea

The Gospel is the word of the truth that comes to us by grace, bears fruit, & grows in others by the Spirit empowered love God gives for our good and His glory.

Overview

I. The Gospel is the Word

- It is a Word that is Heard (vs. 5)
- In order for the Gospel to be believed it must be spoken in words

II. The Gospel is the Truth

- This Truth is a truth From God (vs. 6)
- Not just something to be added to other philosophies; it is THE Truth from God
- It explains the reality of how God has/is dealt/dealing with man & the world
- It is news of the Word of the Truth of what has been done, not what we have to do

III. The Gospel Travels

- Paul says to the Colossians the Gospel has COME TO YOU...indeed it is going into the whole world
- The Gospel was made to move from one person to another that the word might be believed

IV. The Gospel Bears Fruit

- The Gospel is not a message that is still born...it is something that brings forth that which is in keeping with the kind that bore it: It gives life in keeping with the character of God

V. The Gospel Grows

- The Gospel brings about fruit that has us to Grow in number
- The Gospel brings about fruit that has us to Grow deeper into the Gospel
 - We never move beyond our need for the Gospel: Only deeper into it

VI. The Gospel is the Grace of God

- The Gospel tells us that God has extended grace to guilt ridden sinners
- Grace: Receiving what you do not deserve
- Grace is not license, but leisure to work from our salvation having been adopted by God

VII. The Gospel has faithful ministers

- Epaphras was a "faithful minister" and so that assumes there are "unfaithful ministers" of the Gospel

VIII. The Gospel causes love in the Spirit

- Love in the Spirit: Church is loving in the power of the Spirit, not the power of the Self
- They are loving because Christ first loved them: So they love others as Christ loved
 - Empowered by the Spirit

Questions

Discussion Starter: When you hear "Gospel" what are the immediate thoughts, emotions, ideas, etc. that come to mind?

1. What is lost if we don't use the words to explain the Gospel?
2. Why would Paul refer to the Gospel as "the Truth?" What is it that makes it The Truth?
3. Why would Paul want to ground them in this truth given the context of what is happening in Colosseae? How is that similar to our city?
4. Why would God want the Gospel to travel? What is behind Gods desire to see it travel?
5. How is it traveling in your life?
6. Where do you see the Gospel bearing fruit & growing at Restoration Church? In the World?
7. Why is Grace so foundational to the Gospel?
8. How can we abuse it or take it for granted?
9. Explain the difference between "grace based news" vs. "works based directions". How might they look different?
10. How can we discern "faithful ministers?"
11. What does it mean to love in the Spirit?

Accountability Question: Discuss your current love or disdain for the Gospel. Use the Gospel to answer or counsel each answer.