

A Timeless Message

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

- “To be effective the preacher's message must be alive; it must alarm, arouse, challenge; it must be God's present voice to a particular people.” – A.W. Tozer
- I do think that a minister who can preach a sermon without addressing sinners does not know how to preach – C.H. Spurgeon

1 Corinthians 2:1-2

- And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

1 Corinthians 2:1-2

- And when I came to you, brothers and sisters, proclaiming to you the testimony of God [concerning salvation through Christ], I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom [no lofty words of eloquence or of philosophy as a Greek orator might do]; ² for I made the decision to know nothing [that is, to forego philosophical or theological discussions regarding inconsequential things and opinions while] among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified [and the meaning of His redemptive, substitutionary death and His resurrection]. (AMP)

- The Gospel is the only message that matters.
- Everything preached hinges upon the sinless death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:22-24

- 22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God

- **There is a power in God's gospel beyond all description – C.H. Spurgeon**
- **When the message of the Gospel no longer moves us, we grow silent.**

Romans 1:16-17

•- 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

1 Corinthians 2:3-5

- ³I came to you in [a state of] weakness and fear and great trembling. ⁴And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom [using clever rhetoric], but [they were delivered] in demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit [operating through me] and of [His] power [stirring the minds of the listeners and persuading them], ⁵so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom *and* rhetoric of men, but on the power of God. (AMP)

Acts 1:8

• **8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**

- **I have never changed my message. I preach the Bible, and I preach it with authority. – Billy Graham**
- **We are not diplomats but prophets, and our message is not a compromise but an ultimatum. – A.W. Tozer**

1 Corinthians 2:14

- ¹⁴ But the natural [unbelieving] man does not accept the things [the teachings and revelations] of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness [absurd and illogical] to him; and he is incapable of understanding them, because they are spiritually discerned *and* appreciated, [and he is unqualified to judge spiritual matters] (AMP)

2 Corinthians 4:3-5

- **3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. 5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.**

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

• ³We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. ⁴We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. ⁶And after you have become fully obedient, we will punish everyone who remains disobedient. (NLT)

- **Wherever there are sinners, the weak, the sorrowful, the poor in the world that is where God goes. –**
Dietrich Bonhoeffer