

Bold not Brash

ACTS 4:31

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31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

What is Boldness?

Boldness – parrhesia in the Greek, which means outspokenness; assurance, confidence.

Boldness is not a synonym for brashness.

What is Boldness?

Brashness as defined by Webster's Dictionary means:

: heedless of the consequences: audacious

: done in haste without regard for consequences: rash

: lacking restraint and discernment: tactless

: aggressively self-assertive: impudent

: piercingly sharp: harsh

What is Boldness?

Boldness without love is a sin that is loved by the devil

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 - Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

What is Boldness?

Boldness must have truth-telling at its heart since bold Christians want the best for both sinner and saint.

A preacher without love is useless in the hands of God because he (the preacher) is the antithesis of God. - 1 John 4:8 - ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

What is Boldness?

Brashness is the opposite of humility. Jesus was bold, but never brash. Jesus was always humble and never proud.

Peter's sermon in Acts 2 was definitely bold, but it was also about conviction and not condemnation.

What is Boldness?

“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.” – Charles Spurgeon

What is Boldness?

Acts 2:38-40 - ³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” ⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.”

What is Boldness?

Holy boldness is about speaking truth in love.

Ephesians 4:15 - ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love [in all things—both our speech and our lives expressing His truth], let us grow up in all things into Him [following His example] who is the Head—Christ. (AMP)

How is Boldness Produced?

Holy boldness only comes through the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit will only move because of prayer.

To have the abiding presence and power of the Holy Spirit you must abide in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

How is Boldness Produced?

Please note in the Book of Acts, the greater the resistance the more the saints prayed. (Acts 4 & 5)

Ephesians 6:18-20 - ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— ¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

What are the Results of Boldness?

Salvation – Acts 2:41 - ⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

Acts 2:47 - ⁴⁷ ... And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 5:14; Acts 6:7

What are the Results of Boldness?

Miracles – 2:43 - ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 3:1-8 – Peter heals the lame man at the Beautiful Gate.

What are the Results of Boldness?

Acts 5:14-16 - ¹⁴ And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Acts 6:8; Acts 8:5-8 (Stephen & Phillip)

What are the Results of Boldness?

More Boldness - Acts 4:29-30 - ²⁹ Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, ³⁰ by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”

What are the Results of Boldness?

Revival is not simply about miracles for the saints but about prayer and power for God's work.

Revival is about yielding to God and the work of the Holy Spirit for the removal of sin and fear (selfish reluctance).

The most critical need of the church at this moment is men, bold men, free men. The church must seek, in prayer and much humility, the coming again of men made of the stuff of which prophets and martyrs are made. – A.W. Tozer