



Our Commitment to Learn and to Live the Message of the Gospel: Part 2

Acts 20:17-38

Pastor Guy Gray

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The Gospel and the Power of God

Last Sunday we saw that the Gospel is the power of God for salvation in our lives. This means that we never get “beyond” the Gospel. At every step of our Christian faith and life, from beginning to end, it is the Gospel that is needed to make us strong and secure; as well as to cause fruitfulness and growth in our relationship with God and in our ministry to others.

We learned that the Gospel is not good advice or spiritual principles for living.

- *The Gospel is the radical news of what God has done for us through Christ!*

The difference between “religion” and the Gospel is the difference between “do” and “done.” Religion is about what you must do to be accepted by God. The Gospel is about what God has already done through Christ on your behalf to purchase your acceptance at the cost of His own son!

We learned that there are three key components to the Gospel:

- *Acceptance, New Life; and God’s Kingdom invading our world.*

But saying that we “learned” these things last week isn’t quite accurate. These points of the Gospel are not something we fully learn in a single message, or even a series of messages. These are truths that we must grow deeper in throughout our whole Christian life and ministry. These truths should become a powerful “lens” through which we learn to see our lives and the world around us. This is also the lens through which we begin to truly understand the powerful message of God’s Word in all the various parts of the Bible – including Zechariah, which we will begin to study next week!

In Acts 20 we see once again the fire in the heart of the Apostle Paul as he encourages Christians to truly “learn and live” the Gospel. But we also see one more crucial thing. It is something that must happen in us if we are going to truly know the power of the Gospel in our lives. It is our response to the Gospel: Repentance and Faith.

Learning the Gospel of God’s Grace (Acts 20:24)

Learning the Gospel of God’s Kingdom Mission (Acts 20:25)

Learning our Gospel Response: Repentance and Faith (Acts 20:21)