



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

NO SHAME: A GOSPEL TO BE PROUD OF Romans 1:14-17

Paul writing to the Christians in Rome spoke boldly and directly that it is the obligation and opportunity of every Christian to stand up courageously and unashamedly for the Lord.

I. THE PEOPLE

The Gospel is to be proclaimed and shared with EVERY person. Rom 1:14-15

II. THE POSITION

"I am not ashamed of the gospel" Rom 1:16-17

SHAME: a consequence of our acting on a false assumption or misplaced confidence. Shame reveals itself in feelings of fear / disgrace / dishonor which prevents a person from doing / saying a thing - or which result in remorse in a person after have said or done something.

Jesus warned of the being "ashamed of the Gospel: ³⁸ "If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." MK 8:38

Paul admonished Timothy to not be ashamed: ⁷ "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. ⁸ So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord." 2 Tim 1:7-8

Why are Christians ashamed of the Gospel?

1) Hostility of the world toward God intimidates the Christian.

2) The Gospel appears unimpressive, weak, foolish, irrelevant - to the world. ²¹ "For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe." 1 Cor 1:21

Understand the problem:

- 1) The world thinks it is foolish.
- 2) The world stands under judgment to God
- 3) The world is a slave to sin RO 6:19 - 23

There really is a STIGMA to believing the Gospel in the world. Yet, Paul refused to be ashamed in the hardest place of his day - Rome. Should we be any less so today?

III. THE POWER

We overcome shame when we understand the Power of the Gospel.

Inherent in the Gospel is the very power of God that is unleashed when it is shared.

POWER: "Dynamis" = "dynamite" an explosive power – power for Salvation.

The word of God as proclaimed is LIVING and ACTIVE – a powerful force that operates with marked effect on people, transforming them and providing a source of energy to sustain them.

The power is present today! "it is being revealed"

CONCLUSION: The gospel is the dynamic unleashing of the life changing power of God. This is why we MUST proclaim and live it without shame if we are to ever effect change in this world! 2Tim 1:11 "And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² "That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day."

Romans 1:14-17 ¹⁴ I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. ¹⁵ That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are at Rome. ¹⁶ I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Romans 6:19 I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. RO 6:20 When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. RO 6:21 What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! RO 6:22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. RO 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.