The Terre Haute

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..." (1 Peter 4:11).

Volume 13

April 7, 2024

Number 14



WHY I MUST PREACH THE GOSPEL

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The word of the Lord is in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones (Jer. 20:9). *"Yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel"* (1 Cor. 9:16). Why I must preach the gospel:

PEOPLE ARE LOST AND NEED SAVING. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). "...*it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe*" (1 Cor. 1:21).

PEOPLE NEED

CONVERTED. *"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul"* (Ps. 19:7).

PEOPLE NEED TURNED FROM THEIR EVIL WAY. "But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings" (Jer. 23:22).

BRETHREN NEED BUILT UP. It is the word which is able to build you up (Acts 20:32)!

I OUGHT TO BE A

TEACHER. Christians are to be teachers (2 Tim. 2:2). The time should come that we ought to be teachers, lest we be like those in Hebrews 5:12-14. I want to be a teacher. I want to be on strong meat. I want to be skillful in the word of righteousness. I want my senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Thus, I must preach the gospel. What better way to fulfill my responsibility to teach than this: just do it!

To GROW. We are commanded to grow (2 Pet. 3:18). "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:2). Preaching and teaching the word is the best thing that has helped me grow.

TO SAVE MYSELF AND THEM THAT HEAR ME. "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee" (1 Tim. 4:16). Not very many listen, but some do! I want to save myself and as many as will hear me.

TO GIVE MYSELF

WHOLLY. Paul told Timothy, "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all" (1 Tim. 4:15). It is up to self! Only I can give myself wholly. No one can do that for me. I must work out my own salvation (Phil. 2:12). My growth and profiting is up to me. I can do better and I must do better! That is up to me.

I'VE PURPOSED IN MY HEART TO SEEK, DO, AND TEACH. I want to be like Ezra, "for Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments" (Ezra 7:10).

All I want to do is "*Preach* the word" (2 Tim. 4:2). I am trying to speak the word of the Lord faithfully (Jer. 23:28). I want to go to heaven; that is my goal. If I can do anything to help just one soul make it to heaven, my time and effort will be well spent. There is nothing more valuable or more important. I am thankful to be able to take part in the greatest work amongst the greatest people on earth, the Lord's!

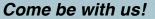
The Terre Haute SPEAKER is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

4017 E Margaret DR Terre Haute, IN 47803 [Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46, West on Margaret DR 1 mile]

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.





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We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.

We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

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