

The Power of the Gospel

Rom. 1:15, 16

Introduction:

- A. Gospel is good news — Good spell, good story.
- B. Glorious Gospel (2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Tim. 1:11).
- C. Power from *dunamis*; cf. Dynamo, Dynamic.
- D. Greatest power in the world — power to save sinners.

Discussion:

I. The Gospel Is God's *Drawing* Power (John 6:44,45).

- A. One is drawn to Christ by learning:
 - 1. The truth of the gospel story. (Acts 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:1-8).
 - 2. The significance of the gospel story. (Rom. 5:6-10; 1 John 4:19).
- B. One may be drawn to "the church," by other means — not to Christ.
 - 1. Human wisdom and power. (Cf. 1 Cor. 1:20-25; 2:1-4)
 - 2. Various carnal appeals:
 - a. To recreation and social activities.
 - b. To popularity and prosperity.
 - c. To prestigious academics of teachers.

II. The Gospel Is God's *Translating* Power (Col. 1:13).

- A. From realm of darkness into kingdom.
- B. From lost state to saved state. (Mark 16:15-16).
- C. From world into Christ and His church. (Rom. 6:3,4; 1 Cor. 12:13)

III. The Gospel Is God's *Transforming* Power (Rom. 12:2).

- A. Turn servants of sin into servants of God. (Rom. 6:17, 18; 1 Thess. 1:9).
- B. Turn Immoral wretches into clean Christians (1 Cor. 6:9-11).
- C. Turn persecutors into proclaimers (Saul).

IV. The Gospel Is God's *Sustaining* Power (1 Pet. 1:3-5).

- A. Will sustain us in:
 - 1. Every situation in life. (Phil 4:11-13).
 - 2. Temptation. (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - 3. Death (Acts 7:59, 60)
- B. Will sustain us if:
 - 1. We are not moved away from hope. (Col. 1:22,23)
 - 2. We add "Christian graces" (2 Pet. 1:10-11).
 - 3. We remain faithful. (Rev. 2:10).

Conclusion:

- A. Truly, gospel is power of God unto salvation.
- B. Let us learn it well, and obey its precepts.