

Sun Morning

COURAGEOUS IN THE GOSPEL

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | JUNE 23, 2024

Text: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

"For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. 6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: 7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing. 9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; 10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come." (1 Thessalonians 1:5-10)

- Thessalonica - Paul's 2nd missionary journey

INTRODUCTION

- living Christians are examples to all
 - * how to live waiting for God's Son
 - * how to live in faith following the Lord
- living in the "fight" of your life
- Satan's kingdom does not fight lazy church

"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." (Joshua 1:9)

"Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;" (1 Thessalonians 1:3)

1. COURAGEOUS IN OUR Presentation (v. 5a)

A. In Word of God (Bible)

Compare to sword

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12)

- Labor in the gospel for the gospel
- God's Word changes lives

Lk 4:4 Man shall... live... by every word of God

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." (1 Peter 1:23-25)

B. In the Holy Spirit (guide to scriptures)

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." (John 16:13-14)

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the spirit and of power..." (1 Corinthians 2:4-5) ... that your faith should stand in the power of God

2. COURAGEOUS IN OUR Pattern (v. 5b-6)

- match your life with word of God

A. A Known testimony

A KNOWN PATTERN - follower of the Lord

A WORKABLE PATTERN - follower of Christians

Quote: "God has given all of us the gift of influence. What we do with it, is our gift to him!"

"Follow me as I follow Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1)

"Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." (Philippians 4:9)

B. The pattern of the Lord (in the gospels)

THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:" (1 Peter 2:21)

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. 4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin." (Hebrews 12:2-4)

"Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ." (Acts 17:3)

THE EXAMPLE OF THE EARLY BELIEVERS

Quote: "As believers, we must be prepared to continue sharing biblical truth regardless of what the culture around us says or threatens," he urged. "Teaching God's Word is not abusive or dangerous—the gospel is the power of God unto salvation. It is the gospel and the truth of God's Word, with the power of the Holy Spirit, that free us from our slavery to sin and makes us a new creation in Christ Jesus."—**Ken Ham**

3. COURAGEOUS IN OUR Proclamation (v. 7-9)

A. Transformed Lives

thru preaching
- thru witnessing

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

THROUGH REPENTANCE - from idols

BECAUSE OF REVELATION -- to serve the living God

Quote: "I go out to preach with two propositions in mind. First, every person ought to give his life to Christ. Second, whether or not anyone else gives him his life, I will give him mine."—**Jonathan Edwards**

B. Testifying Lives

Daily

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." (Acts 5:42)

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (John 4:35)

CONCLUSION

- Paul "...rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord. I die daily" (1 Cor- 15:31)

- Heb 12:1 Let us run with patience the race that is set before us

"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ," (1 Thessalonians 5:9)

- Rom 12:1 Present your bodies a living sacrifice

