

God's Gospel Word

1 Thessalonians 1:5a

Main Idea:

God's Gospel Word, Working Through his Spirit, Is the Most _____ in the Entire Universe.

1.) Paul's Confidence Was Grounded in the Power of the Gospel Word _____

A.) Paul is Not Saying the Gospel Did _____ Come in _____

"For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe."

1 Thessalonians 2:13

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Romans 10:17

"He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me."

Luke 10:16

B.) To _____ the Gospel word is to _____ Jesus, to _____ the Gospel is to _____ Jesus.

"...the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power..."

Hebrews 1:3

"The Gospel is preached in the ears of all; it only comes with power to some. The power that is in the Gospel does not lie in the eloquence of the preacher, otherwise men would be the converters of souls. Nor does it lie in the preachers learning, otherwise it would consist in the wisdom of man. We might preach our tongues rotted, till we should exhaust our lungs and die, but never a soul would be converted unless there were mysterious power going with it—the Holy

Ghost changing the will of man. O sirs! we might as well preach to stone walls as preach to humanity unless the Holy Ghost be with the word to give it power to convert the soul."

–Charles Spurgeon

2.) Paul's Confidence Was Grounded in the Power of the Gospel Word _____ _____ the Spirit

A.) The Word of God is Proclaimed, and the Spirit Through the Word _____

"And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude...joined Paul and Silas. But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious"

Acts 17:4

*"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. **35** For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law';"*

Matthew 10:34-35

*"Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life...**60** Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying...**66** From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more" John 6:54, 60, 66*

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes..."

Romans 1:16

B.) The Word of God is Proclaimed, and the Spirit Through the Word _____

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes..."

John 6:68

C.) The Word of God is Proclaimed, and the Spirit Through the Word _____

*"Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. **26** But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep...*

***27** My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."*

John 10:25-27

"We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us..."

1 John 4:6

D.) The Word of God is Proclaimed, and the Spirit Through the Word _____

"God's word, working through God's Spirit, is God's primary instrument for growing God's church."

–Jonathan Leeman

"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Acts 2:42

"sanctify them in your truth, your word is truth."

John 17:17

"Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away."

Hebrews 2:1

"God's Word working through God's Spirit. Somebody has to pick up a Bible and read it. And someone has to explain it so that people will understand it. When this happens, the Spirit begins to work upon people's hearts, causing them to believe the words and give a proper weight to them. The people then repeat the words in their songs and prayers. They discover, most remarkably, that they can speak to God as guided by these biblical words. They also repeat the words of God to one another throughout the week. They help each other discern His will for their lives. Then their lives begin to be shaped by the words, so that they begin to live differently at work and at home. They discover that these words are life-giving, hope-giving, and love-producing."

–Jonathan Leeman