

Evangelism and the Glory of God

Review

- A. The divinely appointed _____ of the church in the world is evangelism.
1. Luke 24:46-48 – And [Jesus] said to [His disciples], “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be **proclaimed** in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”
 2. Matthew 28:18-20 – And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
 3. Cf. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19
 4. Luke 19:10 – For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.
 5. Acts 1:8 – You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”
 6. Matthew 9:35-38 – Jesus said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”
 7. Matthew 16:18 – I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.
- B. Evangelism is _____ our _____ and *earnestly, sincerely* telling the Gospel to others – *reasoning* with them, and *exhorting* them to repent and believe.
- I. We don’t evangelize because we think it won’t _____. Fear of failure.
- A. Solution – Meditate and reflect on the _____ of God!
- B. Know your audience
1. 1 Corinthians 2:14 (cf. Ephesians 2:1-3) – A natural man **does not** accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are *foolishness* to him; and he **cannot** understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.
 2. John 3:5 – Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit (born again; v. 3) he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
 3. Romans 8:7-8 (cf. Romans 3:10-12) – The mind set on the flesh is **hostile toward God**; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
 4. Remember:
 - a. We all have “free-wills” in so far as we are completely free to choose *according to our* _____.
 - b. The “free-will” of sinful man is in _____ to his sinful desires.
- C. Know the _____-working power of God’s sovereign grace!
1. John 3:7-8 – Do not be amazed that I said to you, “You must be born again.” **The wind blows where it wishes** and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is BORN OF THE SPIRIT.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 – But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, MADE US ALIVE together with Christ (*by grace* you have been saved).
3. John 1:12-13 – But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were BORN, *not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

D. Our hope is not in the “_____ - _____” of man, but in the _____ of God.

II. We don’t evangelize because we don’t have the Gospel _____ in our mind and heart.

- ✓ Solution – Spend time studying, meditating and reflecting on the God-centered, Christ-centered, and grace-centered teachings of the Gospel!

III. We don’t evangelize because we think we have to _____ the right to tell people the good news.

- ✓ Solution – Know that this thinking is _____!

IV. We don’t evangelize because we wonder: “What will people _____?”

A. This is the fear of _____ (Proverbs 29:25).

B. We must see that the root of all our fear is _____.

1. “What will people think _____?”
2. John 12:42-43 – Many even of the rulers believed in [Jesus], but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for *fear* that they would be put out of the synagogue; for *they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.*
3. Pride is an obsession with our own _____, and a fear that it might somehow be _____.
4. We will never overcome our fear without first _____ of our pride.

C. We must replace our pride with a passion for God’s _____ (1 Samuel 17:42-47; cf. verse 26).

D. The greatest and most worthy _____ of evangelism is the glory of God.

1. Revelation 14:6-7 – And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he said with a loud voice, “Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters.”

2. John 4:23 – But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.
3. Evangelism must be the outworking of our desire for all the earth to know and _____ God.
4. There is no other motive that is capable of _____ the joyful work of evangelism.

E. Scriptures

1. Psalm 66:1-4 – Shout joyfully to God, ***all the earth***; sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious. Say to God, “How awesome are Your works! Because of the greatness of Your power Your enemies will give feigned obedience to You. ***All the earth*** will worship You, and will sing praises to You; they will sing praises to Your name.”
2. Psalm 67:1-7 – God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among ***all nations***. Let ***the peoples*** praise You, O God; let ***all the peoples*** praise You. Let ***the nations*** be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the peoples with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth. Let ***the peoples*** praise You, O God; let ***all the peoples*** praise You. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. God blesses us, that ***all the ends of the earth*** may fear Him.
3. Psalm 96:1-10 – Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, ***all the earth***. Sing to the LORD, bless His name; proclaim good tidings of *His* salvation from day to day. Tell of *His* glory among ***the nations***, *His* wonderful deeds among ***all the peoples***. For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before Him, strength and beauty are in His sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, ***O families of the peoples***, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name; bring an offering and come into His courts. Worship the LORD in holy attire; tremble before Him, ***all the earth***. Say among ***the nations***, “The LORD reigns.”
4. Psalm 99:1-3 – The LORD reigns, let the peoples tremble; He is enthroned above the cherubim, let the earth shake! The LORD is great in Zion, and He is exalted above ***all the peoples***. Let them praise Your great and awesome name; holy is He.
5. Psalm 100:1-2 – Shout joyfully to the LORD, ***all the earth***. Serve the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful singing.
6. Psalm 117:1-2 – Praise the LORD, ***all nations***; laud Him, ***all peoples***! For His lovingkindness is great toward us, and the truth of the LORD is everlasting. Praise the LORD!
7. Psalm 148:7, 11-13 – Praise the LORD from the earth... ***Kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth; both young men and virgins; old men and children***. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven.
8. Cf. Psalm 22:27-28; 68:32; 86:8-10; 98:4-9
9. Romans 15:8-9, 11 – For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers, and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written... “PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES, AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM.” [Quotation from Psalm 117]

Conclusion

A. When we come to share the joyful passion of the Psalmist, then we will evangelize with

-
- ✓ 2 Timothy 1:7-8 – God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me [even] in *suffering* for the gospel according to the power of God.

- B. We need to repent of being obsessed with our image, and pray to God that we might find our greatest delight in His great renown.
- C. A “sneak peak” at the _____ of evangelism.
- ✓ Revelation 7:9-12 – After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

Teaching our Children

- Q. What special job has God given us to do while we are living in this world?
- A. God has given all Christians the job of evangelism (See Scriptures under Review A.).
- Q. What is evangelism?
- A. Evangelism is telling the Gospel to others with a caring heart, helping people see how the Gospel makes sense, and urging people to repent and believe.
- Q. What are some of the reasons that we might not evangelize and how do you think we can overcome these reasons?
- A. ~ Sometimes we might not really think that evangelism will “work.” We might think that no one will listen to us. No one will believe.
~ Rejoice with your children in God’s sovereign grace. (See Scriptures under I. B. & C.)
- A. ~ Sometimes we might not evangelize because we don’t feel like we know the Gospel well enough.
~ Review with your children the summary of the Gospel teachings.
- A. Sometimes we might not evangelize because we’re too embarrassed. We wonder what people will think of us.
- ✓ Talk about the fear of men (Proverbs 29:25)
 - ✓ Q. Where does this fear of men come from?
A. Pride (Read John 12:42-43)
 - ✓ Q. How did David overcome his fear when he went out to fight Goliath?
A. More than anything else in the world, he wanted God to be glorified. His concern was not for himself, but for God’s glory (1 Samuel 17:26, 42-47).
 - ✓ Q. What is the most important and most wonderful and most exciting reason for telling the Gospel to others?
A. We want there to be more and more people who are worshipping our *great* God – the one who made the world and everything in it! (Read some of the Scriptures under IV. E. above and reflect on Revelation 7:9-12 on this page.)
 - ✓ Q. If we can stop being concerned with how we look and what people will think of us and instead be concerned for God to be worshipped in all the earth, then do you think we will be afraid to tell the Gospel to others?
A. No. We will even learn to be bold and courageous! (See 2 Timothy 1:7-8 on this page)