

# Preach Christ and Watch the Wonder

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## **I. The preacher preaches Christ—Those with the miracle of hearing hear**

**1Co 2:2** For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

**1Co 2:14** ... the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

**1Co 1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

**1Co 1:23** But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

**1Co 1:24** But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

## **II. Real preaching is all about Jesus**

**Mat 1:21** ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**Joh 5:25** Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

**2Ti 1:9** Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

**Rom 5:9** ...being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise...

1Co 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ...

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from...the grace of Christ unto another gospel

Gal 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...

Act 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

### III. Real hearing is a miracle of God

Joh 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word.

Joh 8:47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear *them* not, because ye are not of God.

#### A. The miracle of believing

Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

#### B. The miracle of receiving

1Co 2:14 ...the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

1Co 2:12 Now we have received...the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

#### C. But what about believing and receiving to become the sons of God?

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

Joh 1:13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

#### 1. In these verses. born again has already happened before believing and becoming

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth...so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Joh 3:3 ...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Psa 110:3 Thy people *shall be* willing in the day of thy power...

Php 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

## 2. God is the sole and only cause of being born again and being adopted as children

Eph 1:5 Having **predestinated** us unto **the adoption of children**...

Gal 4:4 ...God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

Gal 4:5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Gal 4:6 And **because ye are sons**, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Gal 4:7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

## 3. 'Son'—a child; or a pupil/disciple whose teacher has molded his mind & character

Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

1Sa 2:12 Now the sons of Eli *were* sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.

Mat 13:38 ...the tares are the children of the wicked *one*;

Mat 5:44 ...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Luk 6:35 ...do good...and ye shall be the children of the Highest...

Eph 5:1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

2Co 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,

2Co 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters....

## 4. Receiving & believing lead to a lifestyle where we are seen to be children of God

Mat 5:9 Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

1Jn 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

## IV. Truths about preaching, hearing, believing & receiving from 1 Corinthians 1 & 2

**A. The preacher is to preach Christ & Him crucified—God provides the power**

1Co 2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

1Co 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

1Co 2:3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

1Co 2:4 And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of **power**:

1Co 2:5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the **power** of God

**B. The cross is God's power to salvation—Preaching is empowered to reveal salvation**

1Co 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which **are saved** it is the power of God.

1Co 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

1Co 1:22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

1Co 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

1Co 1:24 But unto them which **are called**, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the **power** of God, and the wisdom of God.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he **power** to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

Joh 1:13 **Which were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**.

**C. All of salvation is all of God—Man is to glory ONLY in the Lord**

1Co 1:30 But **of him** are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

1Co 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

**D. The wisdom of natural man is unable to understand the mystery of God's wisdom**

1Co 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

1Co 2:8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

**E. God reveals the knowledge of His salvation to His children by His Spirit**

1Co 2:10 But God **hath revealed** *them* unto us by his Spirit...

1Co 2:11 ...the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1Co 2:12 Now we have **received**, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; **that we might know** the things that are freely given to us of God.

1Co 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which **the Holy Ghost teacheth**; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

**F. The natural mind will not and cannot receive and/or know the things of God**

1Co 2:14 But the natural man **receiveth not** the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: **neither can he know *them***, because they are spiritually discerned.

**G. In the new birth, the Spirit of God gives the born-again child a spiritual mind**

1Co 2:16 ...But we have the mind of Christ.