

Sermon Series Title: "EM Vision"

Sermon Series Summary: To start off 2023, we are going to look at our vision and remember the foundation and goal for everything we do.

Call: 1 Samuel 2:3

Text: Romans 1:16-17

Title: "EM Vision, Part Two"

Next Week's Call: 1 Samuel 2:4

Next Week's Text: Acts 9:19b-31

Next Week's Title: "The Start of Paul's Ministry"

Future Calls: 1 Samuel 2:7, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23-25, 26-27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 40-43, 47, 50-51

Future Titles: "The Healing through Peter" (Acts 9:32-43); "Cornelius' Prayer" (Acts 10:1-8, 30-33); "Peter's Vision" (Acts 10:9-29); "Cornelius' Salvation" (Acts 10:34-48); "Peter's Report" (Acts 11:1-18); "The First Gentile Church" (Acts 11:19-30); "The First Apostolic Martyr" (Acts 12:1-5); "Peter's Rescue" (Acts 12:6-19); "Herod's Death" (Acts 12:20-25)

Fallen Condition Focus: We are in sin, and we need salvation.

Christ redeeming FCF: Christ is the Savior who has given us His righteousness and taken on our condemnation.

Proposition: "May we live in the richness of the gospel."

Summary: We are in our second week, looking at our EM vision. Through these two verses, we see Paul's identity in the gospel as it is His salvation. We are declared righteous by faith through the work of Christ, and our life in salvation is lived out by faith.

Reflective Questions:

1. What is the gospel? Why would Paul say that he is not ashamed of it?
2. What does it look like to live out our salvation in faith?

I. Introduction

- A. Hook
 - B. Transition
 - C. Proposition
 - D. Points
- II. Gospel Truth (v. 16)
- A. After the initial thanksgiving for the Roman church, we see Paul's longing to see them and share the gospel with them.
 - B. In our first verse, we see that Paul is not ashamed of the gospel.
 - 1. There were many ways Christians back then could have been ashamed of the gospel- polytheism, "signs and wisdom," drawn to the outcasts
 - 2. Paul is not ashamed of it because of what it is.
 - C. What is the gospel?
 - 1. 1 Cor 15- life, death, and resurrection of Christ- redemptive events
 - 2. Good news for us because of the bad news of sin, shame, and condemnation
 - D. It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
 - 1. Would we be ashamed of freedom for the slave, victory for the oppressed, or cure for the sick?
 - 2. Power of God- dynamic power; not words for authority or expectation; power that is not forced upon us but power that explodes inside of us
 - 1. What do we think of when we think of the power of God?
 - E. Salvation- new life in Christ- order of salvation
 - 1. Salvation literally means physical, spiritual, emotional health, security, and life
 - 2. Past, present, future; penalty, power, and presence of sin
 - F. To everyone who believes- regardless of ethnicity, gender, social class, morality, etc.
 - 1. Jew first and then to the Greek- not priority but order of events
- III. Gospel Life (v. 17)
- A. In the gospel, we see the righteousness of God revealed.
 - 1. Righteousness of our holy God that He required in man
 - 2. The righteous character of God to punish sin on the cross
 - B. From faith for faith
 - 1. Faith is a gift received; faith is how we are saved through the gospel; resting upon Christ alone for salvation
 - C. The righteous shall live by faith
 - 1. Transformative verse for Martin Luther
 - 2. Reference from Habakkuk 2:4- book on suffering

- D. How can sinners be righteous?
 - 1. Justification- imputation; declaration of righteousness
 - 2. Not be saved or changed; live by faith
- E. The gospel is both the entry and pathway.
 - 1. We are to live by faith. Even our sanctification is by faith.
 - 1. For example, we follow our idols because we love them. The only way for us to break our idols is to love Jesus more, and the only way we can love Jesus more is to by faith experience/know/trust in His love for us more.
 - 2. We live our lives in dependence on Him, trusting Him for our righteousness more than our own. Fighting against being our own savior.
 - 1. Galatians 2:14- apostles including Peter were not “in step with the truth of the gospel”

IV. Gospel Hope

- A. We can know it with our minds, but do we know it with our hearts?
- B. We can know the benefits of salvation but do we know the SAVior himself?
- C. We can experience the healing of our Savior without being in relationship with Him.
- D. Jesus was not ashamed of the gospel for me.
- E. Jesus lived righteously for me, died for me, buried for me, and raised back to life for me.
- F. He was the ultimate righteous one who suffered to live and die by faith, and now we are united to Him.
- G. At the end of the day, the gospel is good news, because we get God.