

Title: **The Gospel Is...**

Greetings

I believe today's message will be one that will bless you, encourage you, and give you truths to believe and understand why Jesus Christ is the Messiah of mankind.

As we consider today's passage, I would like you to keep in mind the significance of 'truth.' You see, truth gives us reason to believe a statement, a person, or a thing is the case. For instance, if I say to you, "You need food and water to remain alive," You would agree that that statement is true because it is the case.

If I state that "humans can live without food and water," you would understand this to be an untruthful statement because when people become dehydrated or malnourished, they don't live – at least not very long.

I want you to pay special attention to today's message, it is about the Gospel and the Truths surrounding the Gospel as Pronounced by the Apostle Paul to his protégé Timothy.

To be clear, the Bible makes claims throughout its pages that have been supported by many theologians, historians, scientists, and archeologists to be 'True.'

The **MIT**: The Apostle Paul declared that the Gospel message included the resurrection of David's offspring Jesus Christ, that the Gospel message was not bound by any constraint, and that the Gospel message was needed for salvation.

The **MIS**: "The Gospel is about a resurrected Royal Savior; it cannot be stopped but announces to lost and dying people the only way for them to be saved is by grace through faith."

So, if you will,

Turn with me in your Bibles to **2 Timothy 2:8-10**. You read with me as I read aloud. 2 Timothy 2:8-10

8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, 9, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

Sermon Title: As I previously stated, "Truth gives us reason to believe a statement, a person, or a thing is the case." So, today we are going to consider whether Paul's statements found in 2 Timothy 2:8-10 are True (I believe they are –).

Sermonic Word: And as we consider this morning Paul's Statements, we will find three Truths that He Pronounces about the Gospel to Timothy, and they are:

- 1. The Gospel is about a Resurrected Royal Savior**
- 2. The Gospel Message cannot be Stopped**
- 3. The Gospel announces to lost and dying people that there is salvation available to everyone, but it comes only by Grace through one's Faith."**

Let us Pray

Material

Division Statement I:

As we begin our study of 2 Timothy 2:8-10 this morning, let us first find Paul's First Truthful Pronouncement. Again

1. The Gospel is about a Resurrected Royal Savior.

Explanation:

The Old Testament describes that the Messiah – the Savior would be from a Royal Bloodline. And Jesus of Nazareth is the only one who fulfills this prophecy. In Genesis 3:15, Eve is found with a "Seed" after the fall. In Genesis 12:3b Moses writes concerning Abraham, "In your 'Seed' all the families of the earth shall be blessed." To David, God had promised both the continuance of his seed and his throne forever (2

Samuel 7:12-16). The Gospel of Matthew traces Jesus' genealogy from Joseph to Solomon, and Luke traces it from Mary to David's son Nathan.

The kingly line of the Messiah is preserved through Nathan rather than through Solomon and Solomon's descendants (remember God's curse upon Jehoiakim).

The New Testament gives the legal right to the throne of David.

Demonstrating that the legal right is passed through Solomon and Jehoiakim to Joseph and to Joseph's legal son, Jesus. However, the physical "Seed," however, is passed through Nathan and Mary to Christ.

John Walvoord states in regards to Mary, "It is at once a striking illustration of the accuracy of the prophetic Word, God anticipating the defection of the kings of Judah and their curse, and at the same time a confirmation of the virgin birth. If Jesus had been the physical son of Joseph, He would have been disqualified by the curse upon Jehoiakim."

Jesus had to be of Royal Bloodline – True.

But Paul pronounces two truths in verse 8 - of a Royal Bloodline and a Resurrection.

Paul notes that Jesus was resurrected First before affirming His royal bloodline. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John testify to Jesus' resurrection. Additionally, Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15:14 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.

Furthermore, Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15:6 concerning Jesus' resurrection, "After His resurrection He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;"

The Apostle Paul himself died teaching Jesus Christ had risen. Why did Paul willingly die preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Gary Habermas writes in his book *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus*, "He [Paul] was glad Jesus was dead, and he was trying to finish the job the Jewish leaders had started by destroying the church, which he believed was a gross heresy. Then to the amazement of many, he suddenly changed his mind and became a member of the church he had sought to destroy.

What caused this change in Paul? His testimony is that the risen Jesus appeared to him personally.” Jesus is a Resurrected Royal Savior.

Illustration:

I can remember in July 1981 seeing the pomp and circumstance surrounding the marriage of Prince Charles and Princess Diana when I was nearly 11 years old. But even without the interest in this wedding, I could not help but getting captivated by the Royal Family. In all fairness, it was showing on every channel. I remember it well. It was an extraordinary event. That is how those who saw Jesus’ Resurrected Body before His ascension to Heaven was to them. His resurrection remained vivid until God took them home. Again, The Royal Family, well, you cannot become King or Queen of England unless you are in the direct line to the throne. The OT Messiah had to fit these requirements too.

Application:

The Apostle Paul’s pronouncement that the Gospel is about a Resurrected Royal Savior is something one must consider seriously. Read the Holy Bible, Read the Gospel, and read both the New and Old Testaments. Read works by the early church fathers and authors who hold an orthodox view of Scripture. Read the Truths surrounding how Jesus of Nazareth is the only one who fits the bill of a Royal Bloodline who was Resurrected from the Grave on the third day. Fact or Fiction? For Believers, stay in the Word, Worship in the local church, remain prayed up, and most of all, Love God with all your mind, soul, and body and love people.

And so, we have found the Apostle Paul’s first Truthful pronouncement to Timothy in our passage to be worthy of serious consideration.

As we continue our study of 2 Timothy 2:8-10, let us examine Paul’s second Truthful pronouncement to Timothy. He affirms that:

Division Statement II:

2. The Gospel Message cannot be Stopped

Explanation:

In the book of Hebrews, Hebrews 4:12, the author writes concerning the Gospel and the Word of God, “For we have the living Word of God,

which is full of energy, like a two-edged sword. It will even penetrate to the very core of our where soul and spirit, bone and marrow meet!” The Word of God is “...full of energy”; it is a force that cannot be stopped. In Paul’s situation in our text, he is bound, he said, because he was preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was bound, but the Gospel message was springing forth into the local region and the rest of the world despite Paul’s incarceration.

Jesus, Himself said that the Gospel would be declared in all the World (Matthew 28, Mark 16, and even Moses wrote in Genesis 12:3) because followers of Christ Jesus rely on God the Father, The Lord Jesus Christ, and the Power of the Holy Spirit for this is an unrestrainable force – Energy.

Paul was not reliant upon his personal strength, and neither should we rely on our own strength. Jesus promised in John 14:2 that His servants have His power to do the works that He did and have the power of the Holy Spirit, which no man or force can extinguish.

In fact, right before the Lord ascended back into Heaven, Luke records the words of Jesus Christ in Acts 1:8, writing, “But you [the saved, the ones who have repented and accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord] will receive power (duvamis – dynamite) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Illustration:

In regards to Physics, have you ever thought about what happens to objects that are launched into space? According to Newton’s first law, a rock, if it is thrown into space, will move forward forever unless it is resisted by a bigger rock or bigger object, but it won’t be stopped. It may get knocked off course, but it will forever move forward. Once something is set into motion, it stays in motion. The Gospel is not a rock, but it is a power that cannot be stopped, no matter if it is resisted or not. This is a Truth.

Division II Application: That is why we cannot rely upon our own strength or even Newton’s first law of energy. We must rely upon the Holy Spirit to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Peter tells the unbeliever in Acts 2:38, stating, “Repent and be baptized every one of

you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive. . . the Holy Spirit.” For the Believer, stay in the Word, worship in your local church, remain prayed up, pray for others, and most of all, Love God with all your mind, soul, and body and love people.

After examining Paul’s second factual pronouncement, we have found why the Gospel cannot be stopped. We, as believers – having the Holy Spirit - contribute to the propulsion – the thrust - of the Gospel into all the earth.

Division III. As we conclude our study of 2 Timothy 2:8-10, let us examine Paul’s third truthful pronouncement pertaining to our passage.

Division Statement III:

3. The Gospel announces to lost and dying people that there is salvation available to everyone, but it comes only by Grace through one’s Faith.”

You see, Grace is unmerited favor. Most religions teach a works-based merit system. Our society is like that as well, acceptance is based on performance. But the Gospel is the good news of the Grace of God to grant forgiveness and eternal life. But only if you believe, trust in His Forgiveness, and receive His forgiveness and grace.

Explanation: Guilt represents any just charge against a sinner for any kind of sin or transgression, which in our case, is the sin imputed to us all through Adam and Eve’s fall in the very beginning.

The word ‘atonement’ is used to include all that Christ accomplished by His death. In the OT, atonement meant ‘to cover,’ that is, to put sin out of sight. The sinner has no chance to stand before God and His holy character, but Christ Jesus is the substitute for us who bore the punishment that was due to us because of our sinful nature.

In keeping with OT sacrificial system, Jesus ‘with His own blood, has purchased the Church – the saints who made Christ Lord, and the saints have been rescued. Jesus paid the penalty for each and every one who received or will receive Him as Savior and Lord.

The believer is set free by the atoning blood of Christ during His crucifixion. Reconciliation has once again been made between God and man because of Christ. God is the subject, man is the object, and Christ

is the means to reconciliation between God and man. God has reconciled the believer unto Himself II Cor. 5:19.

John Walvoord writes in Jesus Christ our Lord, “The appeal is that God has already provided reconciliation for all, but it is effective only when received by the personal faith of the individual.”

By the Grace of God through personal Faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is what Paul is proclaiming in Paul’s third Truthful pronouncement this morning. An unmerited Grace.

Illustration:

– There is a story about a youth pastor and some of his youth team who took some kids who were involved in a local church to a camping retreat overnight at a camp run by the local YMCA. And one night, while the camp turned in for the evening, including the youth pastor, some of the youth team took a boat out to the middle of the lake, which was a serious offense because of the grave possibilities of being out in the deep water in the dark. And when the youth pastor awoke hearing their noises on the lake, he arose and went to the shore of the lake and waited until these young men returned to shore. All of them saw the look on his face and, like puppy dogs with their tails between their legs, slowly went back to their dorms. The Youth Pastor could hardly sleep the rest of the night thinking about what sort of punishment these young men should receive. But the more the Youth Pastor thought about it, the Holy Spirit kept softening his heart about forgiveness and grace. Ephesians 4:32 kept running through his mind, which states, “Be Kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” The young men could not believe they were fully forgiven the next morning. The Youth Pastor did not even allow them to clean that morning because he did not want them to think they could earn even a little bit of that forgiveness and grace.

Division III

Application:

We have found that the Gospel points the way to salvation for a lost and dying world, which is by the Grace of God the Father and through the Son Jesus Christ that the one who receives Jesus by Faith through repentance will be saved. This is True.

Moses writes in Genesis 15:5 concerning Abraham writing, “And he believed the LORD, and He counted it to him as righteousness.” Like Abraham, David trusted God through Faith. Paul refers to Abraham in Romans 4:5 ... his faith is credited as righteousness.

Jesus said to Paul in Acts 26:18, “...I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by Faith in me.” So, the Gospel points the way to Salvation by God’s Grace that we are saved through Faith and not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Eph 2:8-9) Truth.

After examining Paul’s third truthful pronouncement, we have found why The Gospel announces to lost and dying people that there is salvation available to everyone, but it comes only by Grace through one’s Faith.”.

Conclusion

Global Closing Illustration: If I say to you, “There are two things you can be certain of in your lifetime that will affect you negatively. And you would say what are they? And if I respond with taxes and body aches.” You would agree that that statement is trueful.

Sermon Title: Today, we have examined 2 Timothy 2:8-10 and have considered greatly whether Paul’s statements are Truthful.

Main Idea of the Text: **The MIT:** Paul declared that the Gospel message included the resurrection of David’s offspring Jesus Christ, that the Gospel message was not bound by any constraint, and that the Gospel message was needed for salvation. This is what we have studied today.

Main Idea of the Sermon: “The Gospel is about a resurrected Royal Savior; it cannot be stopped but announces to lost and dying people the only way for them to be saved is by grace through faith.”

So, as we seek to apply the Text to our lives today, we have a decision to make this morning. Do you know Jesus Christ, the Royal Resurrected

Savior? Do you believe His message must be declared to all people? Do you believe that He is the only one who has made a way for lost and dying people to be saved? Do you believe that His act on the Cross was the Greatest demonstration of Grace? If you believe these to be Truthful by faith and through repentance of your sins, you can be saved this morning. It's that easy. Won't you come to these altars to repent and ask Jesus to reside in your heart? Pam is going to come and play the invitation song, and while she does, please come, don't wait another minute, and be reconciled to God Almighty, beginning this very moment and lasting forever into eternity glory. Come?

INVITATION