

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)
For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16

There is no salvation apart from knowledge

God is continually bringing me back to the simplicity of Romans 1:16, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."* That which we are not ashamed of is *"the gospel"*. The gospel cannot be separated from knowledge. In the New Covenant church age, salvation cannot be separated from specific truths, specific knowledge gained only from the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. To say we are not ashamed of the gospel is to say we are not ashamed of presenting the plan of salvation clearly from the Word of God. No one can be saved as by a cataclysmic event. No one can be saved by an angelic appearance or a so called apparition of Jesus. No one can be saved by an ecstatic or spiritist emotional experience. Man's salvation is inseparable from the facts of the gospel as revealed in God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. True, once the gospel has been clearly presented God often uses cataclysmic events to bring men to themselves as in the case of the prodigal son but these events can only save men when they turn them to the saving knowledge of Christ as previously presented or taught. An emphasis on the spectacular individual event makes it all too easy for the world (and even the church) to marginalize the universal truths of the gospel, which is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. The gospel is not "my story", the gospel is not "your story", *"for what we preach is not ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus sake."* (II Corinthians 4:1) Our duty as witnesses is the content of the gospel not a one act biographical monologue.

Romans 1:16 deals not only with content but also with proclamation from Word of God

To say we are not ashamed of the content of the gospel is not enough, we must also be able to say boldly that we are not ashamed to proclaim the content of the gospel. By proclamation we mean the verbal communication of the gospel, either through teaching or preaching, as centered upon the Word of God. The facts, the truths of the gospel can only be found in the Word of God and salvation is impossible apart from these truths, these facts as revealed in the Word of God. Thus witnessing becomes a matter of verbal presentation of the truths of the Gospel as revealed in the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. Some very bold extroverts who regularly engage others in Christian religious and philosophical discussions are never-the-less ashamed of the gospel actual content of the gospel leading to a decision and rarely bring it up.

Some are ashamed of the audacity of the bold proclamation of the gospel

By audacity I mean the Biblical claims. For instance Romans 1:16 makes the claim that the gospel itself is the power of God for salvation. This is just too audacious for some - no anthropology, no culture immersion, no long term intimate relationship, no good works, impossible!! They are not only ashamed of the gospel but they are embarrassed by and ashamed of people who on a first encounter clearly and succinctly present the gospel from the holy Scriptures. The fact that the Word of God knows of not a single illustration of the inception of a relationship where the gospel with a call to a decision was not made in the same day and in most cases within the first hour or so. Unfortunately, to many, the immediate proclamation of the gospel from the Word of God as taught in the Epistles and exemplified in both the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles is viewed as at best a throw back to another age.

A Return To An Unashamed Gospel Presentation Springing From The Word of God

It is hoped that the meditations in this series will lead to a return in your life to an unashamed gospel presentation, springing from the Word of God. It is hoped that there will emerge a growing conviction that you should not preach yourself but Jesus Christ as Lord as revealed in the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. That you should do so boldly and aggressively. That you will come to grips with an open association with the gospel of Christ and with the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. If at the end of this series of daily quiet times alone with God you find yourself without shame as it pertains to the gospel and exuding complete confidence in the gospel's power as it pertains to the salvation of men. If at the end of this series of daily quiet times alone with God you find yourself openly carrying your Bible, openly witnessing of Christ from the Bible and openly sharing in the fruit and the ridicule associated with such a lifestyle then the prayers of the author will have been answered.

Rev. John S. Mahon

Grace Community Int. 07/15/09 - while ministering the gospel in Nairobi, Kenya

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD***JEREMIAH 15:16*****THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 1:16****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mark 8:38; Luke 9:26****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19 & 20; John 17:15 – 18; 20:21****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 4:31 – 33

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 5:42

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 9:1 – 29 (:20, 27, 28)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 10:34 - 42

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 13:1 – 49 (:5, 32, 46, 49)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 14:1 – 22 (:3, 7, 15)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 18:24 – 28 (:26 & 28)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 19:1 – 10 (:8)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 20:18 - 21

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 28:1

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 1:14-16

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 10:1 - 18

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Corinthians 9:16 – 23 (:18, 23)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 2:14 - 17

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 4:5 & 6

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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JEREMIAH 15:16

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 5:20

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 6:17 – 20 (:19, 20)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Philippians 1:12-20 (:14, 20)

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Colossians 1:25 - 29

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Colossians 4:1 – 4

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Colossians 4:5 & 6; II Timothy 2:23 - 26

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Thessalonians 2:1 - 6****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Timothy 1:7 – 12****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Timothy 4:1 - 5****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Witnessing - Not Ashamed Of The Gospel (Bold Proclamation)****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Jeremiah 1:1 – 9; 5:14****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Jeremiah 20:9****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ezekiel 2:7 – 3:10****How does this passage relate to the theme?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

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