

## **THE FULLY PREACHED GOSPEL**

### **“Whom We Preach”**

Col 1:27-28

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: KJV

*It's Jesus we preach, not a program, ministry or church. We preach Jesus!*

#### **The Apostles-**

Acts 5:42

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. NIV

#### **Philip-**

Acts 8:5-8

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city. KJV

*Now we know that they did not receive the Holy Spirit in manifestation until Peter and John came down and laid hands of them. But look at the results from preaching Christ unto them: unclean spirits came out howling! Dr. Joseph Umidi said that when he went to India and was preaching to the Sieks, he would just say “Jesus is Lord!” and demons would manifest themselves. Folks, there is power in the name.*

Acts 8:26-39

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road-the desert road-that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."

27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet.

29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

32 The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth."

33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?"

35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?"

38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. NIV

### **Paul-**

Acts 9:17-22

17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord-Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here-has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

18 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,

19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.

20 At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

21 All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?"

22 Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ. NIV

Acts 16:9-10

9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

10 After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. NIV

1 Cor 2:16

"For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ. NIV

Eph 4:16

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. NIV

Col 2:2

that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, NASU

Col 2:19

He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow. NIV

*As sure as an open vision from God, as tight as the body is held together by Christ, as close as believers are knit together in love is as undeniably Paul presented from the Old Testament that Jesus is the Messiah! Praise God that we have the New Testament, **the** Gospel, to proclaim with. But how well versed are we in the Old Testament prophecies that speak of Jesus and prove that He is Messiah?*

*What would some of them be? Let's examine the record from Acts 13 to get a sample.*

Acts 13:32-37

32 "We tell you the good news: What God promised our fathers

33 he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

"You are my Son; today I have become your Father.'

34 The fact that God raised him from the dead, never to decay, is stated in these words: "I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.'

35 So it is stated elsewhere: "You will not let your Holy One see decay.'

36 "For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed.

37 But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay. NIV

Ps 2:7

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. NIV

Isa 55:3

Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. KJV

Ps 16:10 NIV

because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

Acts 13:38-41

38 "Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

39 Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses.

40 Take care that what the prophets have said does not happen to you:

41 "Look, you scoffers, wonder and perish, for I am going to do something in your days that you would never believe, even if someone told you." NIV

Hab 1:5

"Look at the nations and watch- and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. NIV

Acts 13:47-49

47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

49 The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. NIV

Isa 49:6

he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth." NIV

*And that's just Acts 13! Following are some other quotations you might find familiar.*

Gen 22:18 NIV

and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Gal 3:8

The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." NIV

Ps 68:18

When you ascended on high, you led captives in your train; you received gifts from men, even from the rebellious-- that you, O LORD God, might dwell there. NIV

Eph 4:8-10

8 This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men."

9 (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?

10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) NIV

Isa 11:10

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. NIV

Rom 15:12

And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him." NIV

Isa 28:16

So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. NIV

Rom 9:33

As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." NIV

Acts 17:2-3

2 As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

3 explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ," he said. NIV

*The Greek word for "proving" in verse three is most commonly used in Scripture with regard to presenting a meal to somebody. Paul presented the Gospel like a well prepared meal.*

Isa 53:3-6

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. NIV

Acts 26:22-23

22 But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen-

23 that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles." NIV

*Remember Peter's reaction when Jesus told them plainly that he would have to die? The Jews had a hard time grasping that he Messiah had to suffer and die. They were all looking for ward to the establishment of the kingdom and their salvation from their oppressors.*

1 Cor 1:21-25

21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

22 Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom,

23 but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. NIV

*God in His infinite wisdom determined to save man by faith in a message about a man who was crucified. To the world, this is foolishness. But look at what Paul says in verse 24, "Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God." We're talking the crucifixion here! We not only gain salvation through faith in this word, but we gain power by continuing faith in His accomplished work on the cross.*

2 Cor 4:5

For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. NIV

Phil 1:15-18 NIV

15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill.

16 The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

17 The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains.

18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,

*We should not fret ourselves with regard to the motives of others who preach Christ. We should rejoice that Christ is preached.*

Mark 9:38-40

38 "Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

39 "Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me,

40 for whoever is not against us is for us." NIV

Num 11:24-29

24 So Moses went out and told the people what the LORD had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the Tent.

25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again.

26 However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp.

27 A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."

28 Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"

29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" NIV

*We need to guard against the spirit of jealousy in our own lives and the lives of those we minister with. This is why we are to rejoice when Christ is preached. It doesn't mean that we don't recognize that there are those who preach for self-promotion. It's that we don't get tricked to*

*switch our focus. Our focus is to preach Christ. And to the end that that is down, we should rejoice.*

*With regard to ourselves, however, we need to pay close attention to our motives and to the gospel we receive.*

2 Cor 11:3-4

- 3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
- 4 For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough. NIV

Gal 1:6-9

- 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-
- 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.
- 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!
- 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned! NIV

[Ancillary verses: 2 Tim 4:16-18; Rom 16:25-27; Eph 3:8-9]

**Peter-**

[Ancillary verses: Acts 3:22-23; Deut 18:15-18; Acts 10:37-45]

**The Power (Miracle)-**

Acts 3:1-11

- 1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer-at three in the afternoon.
- 2 Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts.
- 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money.
- 4 Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!"
- 5 So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.
- 6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."
- 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong.
- 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.
- 9 When all the people saw him walking and praising God,
- 10 they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

11 While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. NIV

### **The Proclamation-**

Acts 3:12-16

12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

13 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go.

14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you.

15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see. NIV

### **The Persecution-**

Acts 4:7-20

7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed,

10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

11 He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone."

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

14 But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.

15 So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

16 "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it.

17 But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

18 Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God.

20 For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." NIV

**The Prayer-**

Acts 4:29-31

29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.

30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. NIV