

PREACHING 'GRACE' IN A POST-MODERN CULTURE

- What is 'truth'? Truth is ... / What is post-modernism? Postmodernism is ...

I. EXAMINING PAUL'S PAST EVANGELISTIC PREACHING IN A PAGAN CULTURE (1 Cor. 2:1-5)

A. His MISSIONARY PERSISTENCE. (2:1a)

1. Paul recalls his past _____ to Corinth.

2. Paul recalls his past coming to Corinth _____.

- What can we learn from this? That _____ wants to use _____ corporately or alone to _____ and _____ the lost as He leads you personally, and not wait for the unsaved to come to you. But remember, you are never really _____.
(Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5-6)

B. His METHOD of PREACHING . (2:1b)

1. Negatively – He did not come with _____
or of human _____.

2. Positively – He did come _____ a needed message as a _____,
not a philosopher.

- What can we learn from this? That God wants to use believers like a _____
in a courtroom, not as a _____ in a classroom, to _____
His message without apology regardless of the _____.

C. His MESSAGE of PREACHING. (2:1c-2)

1. Paul message is described here as _____.

2. Paul's message is also described as _____ and _____.

3. Paul's message is further defined as _____. (1 Cor.15:1-11)

- What does the context and content of the Gospel involve?
 - a. Its *context*: THE _____ and the _____ with the _____.
 - b. Its *content*:
 - (1) A specific person: _____, who is _____ in _____ flesh.
 - (2) A specific work: "that Christ _____ for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He _____ the third day according to the Scriptures, and He was seen ..."

(3) **A specific accomplishment:** “that Christ died _____”.

(4) **A specific response:** to _____ in Christ alone for eternal salvation or eternal life as He is presented in the Gospel apart from works, law, or ritual. (15:2,11; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4)

- What are some of the wrong responses to the Gospel today?
- What can we learn from this? **That the preaching of the _____ is always _____, yet it is the message that God uses to _____ those that _____.**

D. His MANNER of PREACHING. (2:3-4)

1. It involved a sense of _____ due to human weakness, a characteristic that has accompanied all faithful preachers of the Word of God over the centuries.
2. It involved a total disavowal of reliance upon _____ and _____.
 - Why is this important to remember? **Because we must do _____ will, _____ way, according to _____ Word, through _____ Spirit, for _____ glory, leaving he results with _____. Remember that Jesus Christ did not ask you to build the church; He said that He will! (Matthew 16:18)**
3. It involved a demonstration of the _____ of the _____ using the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the human heart.
 - Why is this critical to realize? **To show that the _____ power must always supplant the _____ weakness and _____ the lost of the truth of the Gospel.**

E. His MOTIVE in PREACHING. (2:5)

1. Paul’s purpose in preaching in this manner and method was “that your _____ should _____ be in the _____ but in the _____.”
2. Paul’s purpose was consistent with his previous statements “that _____ flesh should _____ in His presence” (1:29), “as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory _____.” (1:31)
 - What must we not forget in our evangelistic preaching? **That regardless of the _____, God blesses the clear and direct _____ to bring the lost to faith in Christ as Savior! So we must be _____ in preaching it, trusting the power of the _____ to use it in human hearts.**