

They Have Not All Obeyed the Gospel

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Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

Romans 10:15-21 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you. But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me. But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

- I. It is a wonderful blessing that the Word of God is sent by God by means of those who preach it.

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! (v. 15)

- A. What if it were not so?
 - B. What if there were no glad tidings of good things to tell?
 - 1. But there ARE glad tidings of good things to tell!
 - C. What if there were no forgiveness and no provision for salvaging wrecked souls?
 - 1. But there IS forgiveness and Atonement for sin!
 - D. What if no one would go and preach?
 - 1. There will always be someone who will go!
 - E. What if no church produced or sent out preachers or missionaries?
 - 1. There will always be a church somewhere that will!
 - F. What if God got tired of people not listening and quit sending preachers with his Word?
 - 1. But God will never despair and give up on man!
- II. It is a wonderful and amazing that God continues to send when people will not listen.
- A. How many people would keep calling when no one answers?
 - B. How many people would keep trying to tell the good news when hardly anyone even hears it?
 - C. How many people would keep offering the greatest gift possible to others when those who do hear reject it?
 - D. How many people would keep reaching out when their mercy is not only rejected, but spurned and spit upon?

Romans 10:21 But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

- E. Gainsaying means to dispute, refuse: - answer again, contradict, deny, speak against.
- F. How many people would have the love and patience to keep telling, teaching, and pleading when what they say is disputed, contradicted, denied, and spoken against?

G. This is to those who bring the glad tidings of the Gospel:

Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

III. Who have believed our report?

- A. Only those who have stopped gainsaying and determined to listen.
- B. Faith cometh by hearing ... and you will have no saving faith until you will listen and obey.
- C. But if you will listen and obey you will believe to the saving of your soul.
- D. Isaiah said "Who hath believed our report?" and it was meant as a statement to say that none or very few had believed.
 - 1. The message of God has always been treated the same way in this wicked world.
 - 2. It was that way in Isaiah's day, in the time of Christ, and it is true in our day, as well.
 - 3. It is true in this little crowd in this small church and it is true in the big crowds in the large churches.
 - 4. The number of people who "find it" is FEW.
- E. This is simply because FEW will listen.
- F. FEW will stop gainsaying.
- G. FEW will obey what they do happen to hear and understand.
- H. It is not because the Gospel lacks power or God is unable – it is simply because people will not listen and consider and be honest with themselves.
- I. Do you really want to live your life and miss what life is about?
- J. Do you really want to gainsay your way to hell?
- K. How much patience do you have with people who will not listen?
- L. How much patience do you have with people who hear but refuse to obey?
- M. How long are you willing to put up with people who contradict you and oppose you and argue with you when you know what you are telling them is true and for their good?

Mark 4:24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.