

# **PREACHING THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

Preaching the true gospel through the “Roman’s Road”

## **Acts 28:31**

a sermon by  
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## **“Preaching the Kingdom of God”**

[Acts 28:17-31]

BACKGROUND: In Jerusalem, the apostle Paul is arrested by the Jews (**Acts 21**). A plot by the Jews to murder Paul was thwarted by moving him to Caesarea (**Acts 23**). While imprisoned in Caesarea under the governors Felix & Festus (**Acts 23-26**), Paul, a Roman citizen, appealed to Caesar in the presence of King Agrippa (**Acts 26:32**). Meeting with perils while under Roman guard, Paul makes it to Rome (**Acts 27:1-28:16**). Although the edict of Caesar Claudius banished all Jews from Rome, some 5 years after his death, many Jews returned to Rome. When Paul arrived (**Acts 28:16**), he called the chief Jews together to present his case (**Acts 28:17-20**); however, the Jews heard nothing from Jerusalem concerning him (**Acts 28:21-22**).

Paul explained the Kingdom of God to these Jews (**Acts 28:23**) and some believed (**Acts 28:24**). So Paul, imprisoned for 2 whole years, imprisoned in a house he had to pay for, received all who visited him (**Acts 28:30**) and PREACHED THE KINGDOM OF GOD unhindered because he was imprisoned:

**Acts 28:31**, *“Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.”*

The apostle Paul preached the KINGDOM OF GOD and taught those things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. But in the past 2000 years of church history, the corruption of sinful flesh may have caused us to stray quite far from gospel that Paul preached.

These days we have reduced the gospel to 4 Spiritual Laws, or 4 Scriptures from Romans, a prayer at the end, and a pronouncement that you’re saved. “Welcome to the family of God!”

Now, one **CAN** preach the gospel through the 4 main Scriptures; however, it is much more than that religious reductionism that has made idols out of ministry and men's souls... (What do I mean by that? The SERVICE OF THE SAINTS and the SALVATION OF SOULS has become idolatry to many men and women who call themselves Christians today because those two things, though important, are not more important than desiring Christ and exalting Him above all.)

[Rom 3:23] Most of us don't know what **SIN** is. WHY? We have not truly been to the Cross of Jesus Christ. If Christ and Him crucified were truly preached, we wouldn't write sin of as being...

I'VE MADE SOME MISTAKES; I'M A PRETTY GOOD PERSON;  
I'M NOT THAT BAD

Christians today have lost reverence for Jesus Christ as the perfect, sinless Man, referring to Him as "My bro" or "My homey", etc.

As the perfect human, Jesus Christ was the only MAN who ever lived a sinless life flawlessly; the only JEW who ever kept the Law of Moses completely; the only PROPHET who ever spoke the Word of God perfectly; the only SON who ever obeyed His Father immediately & passionately and pleased Him with all of His superlative excellencies ("beloved Son" Mt 3:17).

**FALLING SHORT OF HIS GLORY...** Jesus Christ is GOD. He suffered the wrath of God as God's one and only Son:

**Isa 53:10**, "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin,

*He shall see His Seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand."*

Our falling short of God's glory is evidenced by the fact that most of us think that we are saved from eternal condemnation because of the torture inflicted upon the Lord by the Jews and Romans. His scourging, though horrifying, making Jesus unrecognizable as a human being, was not what paid for our sins nor delivered us from condemnation as enemies of God. It was His perfect sacrifice.

**NO OTHER MAN HAS EVER OR CAN EVER COME CLOSE TO HIS SINLESSNESS AND SUPERLATIVE PERFECTION IN HIS HUMANITY; AND NO CREATURE CAN EVER COME CLOSE TO HIS INFINITE GLORIES IN HIS HOLINESS AS ALMIGHTY GOD.**

[**Rom 6:23**] The uniqueness of Christ as Man and God, condemns every man, woman, and child as utterly sinful and worthy of eternal wrath before a holy God.

ETERNAL LIFE isn't just living a long time, nor living for eternity. JESUS CHRIST is eternal life. **John 14:6**. If Jesus Christ isn't you're desire above all things, you may not be saved.

**Luke 14:26**, *"If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple."*

Anyone or anything that competes with undivided devotion and unwavering loyalty with Jesus Christ must be shunned with hatred

[**Rom 5:8**] Don't need to cover Christ's dying, as I've already covered that with **Romans 3:23**. Isolating this verse, we MISS...

God's love through Christ came while we were yet,  
SINNERS (**v8**); WITHOUT STRENGTH (**v6**); UNGODLY (**v6**); ENEMIES (**v10**)

*"Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (Rom 5:9).*

And this by the power of God, for the sake of His own holy name (**Ezek 36:21**), that in Christ God *"will sanctify [HIS] great name"* (**Ezek 36:23**), and removing from sinful man a heart of stone & replacing it with a new heart & new spirit (**Ezek 36:26**).

**John 1:13**, *"Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."*

This is being born from above (born again) by the supernatural power of God... and so amazingly life changing, that many can believe that they had something to do with it, until their minds are renewed by the truth of God's Word.

[**Rom 10:9-10**] Merely confessing Christ does not get you to heaven. I asked a group of people once, "What makes you saved?" One answered, "I know Jesus." I replied, "Does Jesus know you?"

**Matt 7:21-23**, *"Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never*

*knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity."*

Evangelists today want to resort to altar calls and sinner's prayers to "make" someone confess with their mouth... but it has nothing of repentance in the message. Repentance is inseparably coupled with faith in the salvation of souls, an internal work that cannot be seen in the external by men. We saw the change of heart in our examination of **Romans 5:8**.

**1 Sam 16:7**, *"But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."*

REPENTANCE is turning from the sin I once loved toward the God who was once my enemy.

When the scribes and Pharisees gathered around Jesus and murmured against Him because He ate with sinners and tax collectors, the Lord told two parables. The first was of a man who, having one lost sheep out of the hundred that he owned, left the ninety-nine to look for the one, and after having found the lost sheep, he called his friends and neighbors to rejoice with him over the find. The second parable was of a woman with ten silver coins who had lost one and searched her entire house until she found it; and having found the lost coin she also called her friends and neighbors to rejoice with her over the find. The Lord provided a commentary for each of the parables, respectively:

**Lk 15:7, 10** -- *"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in*

*heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.... Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."*

Although they were made with greater glory than men,<sup>1</sup> angels are still created beings. As created beings, how can they look upon the heart of a man that has repented? Did God endow them with some kind of special mechanism that allows them to see the change in a man? I don't believe so. I believe that the angels rejoice over one sinner that repents because they hear the proclamation at the throne of God. During Jesus' earthly ministry (and after He ascended to the right hand of the Father, as in the case to the church at Sardis) He said,

**Mt 10:32** *"Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven."*

**Lk 12:8** *"Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God."*

**Rev 3:5** *"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels."*

At the same instant that God the Holy Spirit is supernaturally saving a life unto faith and repentance that would so move a man's mouth to confess Jesus Christ before men, God the Son is

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 8:5; Hebrews 2:7-9

confessing that man by name to God the Father as His very own possession. The angels are not beholding the work of God's sovereign grace internally upon a man's heart; nor are they examining the works produced in that saved life by the graces moving on that individual by the Holy Spirit. The angels in heaven are rejoicing as they witness the demonstration of God's amazing grace to declare the utterly depraved soul as one who is now redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.

That amazing grace continues when Satan, the accuser of the brethren, brings the name of this believer or that one before the bar of God's judgment as some heinous sin would seem to smudge or darken the white robes of God's saving grace. Yet, we, as adopted children, have Christ Jesus as our Advocate, pleading His righteousness, His blood, His sacrifice, His death, burial, and resurrection, and etceteras, putting down and casting aside all arguments raised by the devil, the father of lies. Because Satan accuses the brethren day and night,<sup>2</sup> the heavenly hosts also witness this with awe and great joy.<sup>3</sup> It is written,

**1 Jn 2:1** *"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."*

That is what is happening in heaven when a person is saved. Because Jesus made a confession before His heavenly Father, it is His holy Word as God that makes it so, and therefore, cannot be undone. It is written,

**Isa 55:11** *"So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth:*

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<sup>2</sup> Revelation 12:10

<sup>3</sup> Ephesians 3:10; 1 Peter 1:12; Luke 15:7, 10

*it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."*

**Phil 1:6,** *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

There's no way that I could preach the INFINITE GLORIES of the CROSS of JESUS CHRIST in one sermon...