The Terre Haute **SPEAKER**

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..." (1 Peter 4:11).

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THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

John Edwards

When we are impressed with the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ, we will be moved to obey the gospel. The gospel has:

SAVING POWER. Paul wrote, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation..." (Rom. 1:16). The gospel of Christ is not a power, but the power of God unto salvation. The only power God uses in saving men from sin is the power of the gospel!

BLESSING POWER. To the Romans Paul said, "And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ" (Rom. 15:29). The gospel has power to bless as it brings man into fellowship with Christ (Eph. 3:6), in whom are found "...all spiritual blessings in heavenly places..." (Eph. 1:3).

STABLISHING POWER. There is great demand for Christians to be "...stablished in the faith..." (Col. 2:7). The power to stablish is in the preaching of the gospel of Christ. Paul declared, "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ..." (Rom. 16:25).

BEGETTING POWER. Paul reminded the Corinthians, "...for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel" (1 Cor. 4:15). It is through the gospel that men are "...begotten...unto a lively hope..." (1 Pet. 1:3). If you were begotten "through" something else, then you were begotten "unto" something else!

CALLING POWER. God calls men today by the power of the gospel. 2 Thessalonians 2:14 teaches, "Whereunto he called you by our gospel...." Have you answered the gospel call by hearing (Mt. 17:5), believing (Rom. 10:17), repenting (Lk. 13:3, 5), confessing (Mt. 10:32) and being baptized (Acts 2:38)?

When the gospel loses its power:

When men do some things, they cause the gospel to become of none effect:

1. When men preach the gospel with wisdom of words (1 Cor. 1:17).

2. When men pervert the gospel (Gal. 1:7).

3. When men refuse to believe and obey the gospel (Heb. 4:2; 2 Th. 1:7-9).

Does the power of the

gospel move you?

AND WHAT SHALL I MORE SAY?

John Edwards

The Hebrew author asked this question in Hebrews 11:32. "And what shall I more say" about:

ATTENDANCE. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb. 10:25).

PRIORITIES. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Mt. 6:33).

GIVING. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7).

And so on. All I can say is what the Bible says. If that won't do, what more is there?

THINGS THAT SAVE

Nicolas Edwards

One is not saved by any one thing alone. Let's allow the Bible to tell us what saves.

THE GOSPEL. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the greek" (Rom. 1:16). One must hear, believe, and obey the gospel to be saved (Rom. 10:17; Mk. 16:15-16; 2 Th. 1:8).

PREACHING. "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Cor. 1:21).

GRACE. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). To be saved by grace, we must be called into it (Gal. 1:6; 2 Th. 2:14), access it (Rom. 5:2), continue in it (Acts 13:43), and not fall from it (Gal. 5:4).

HOPE. *"For we are saved by hope..."* (Rom. 8:24). This saving hope comes through the

gospel to those in Christ (Col. 1:5-6; 1 Cor. 15:19). Once we have been baptized into Christ, we must not be moved away from hope (Gal. 3:27; Col. 1:23).

FAITH. "Receiving the end of your faith. even the salvation of your souls" (1 Pet. 1:9). Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Our faith must stand in the power of God (1 Cor. 2:5). We must continue in the faith (Col. 1:23), stand fast in the faith (1 Cor. 16:13), walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7), abound in faith (2 Cor. 8:7), live by faith (Gal. 3:11). Our faith must work (Gal. 5:6; 1 Th. 1:3). We must not make shipwreck of our faith (1 Tim. 1:19) or depart from the faith (1 Tim. 4:1).

WORKS. "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (Jas. 2:24). Just as Abraham, by faith, obeyed, went and offered, so must we obey God (Heb. 11:8, 17; Jas. 2:21-23).

REPENTANCE. *"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation..."* (2 Cor. 7:10).

CONFESSION. *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in*

thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).

OBEDIENCE. "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Heb. 5:9).

BAPTISM. *"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us..."* (1 Pet. 3:21).

Many things are involved in one's salvation. Salvation is conditional. All conditions must be met in order to be saved! We cannot pick and choose, nor add or subtract. We simply must do all the Bible says in order to be saved.



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Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

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We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.

We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

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