

July 1, 2012
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Monday

[Rom. 1:16](#) For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

It is the *power of God!* This is the description of the Gospel—it is the *power of God!* Too often we are stymied in our witness and mission focusing upon our own inability rather than upon God's power. The success of your witness is not found in your memory or your style of presentation. It is found in the Gospel itself. When you share the work of God through Christ, the Holy Spirit works that Gospel in the life of another. The Gospel has a power all its own; it is not your power, but God's power. The Gospel needs nothing except sharing! So find a way, any way to share the truth of God's gracious love in Christ.

Tuesday

[Rom. 1:16](#) For I am not ashamed of the gospel ...

The Gospel has power within itself. It is dynamic. It is penetrating. But WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? HOW DO YOU SHARE IT? Some think the Gospel is simply a statement of God's love, so they simply tell others that God loves them. Some think that sharing the Gospel is simply sharing a testimony of how God has blessed or sustained them, and though God may use such a testimony to stir someone's interest, but this is not the Gospel nor is it sharing the Gospel. The Gospel relates that man is sinful and alienated from God: that judgment is due and mankind is lost. The Gospel relates specifically that God in love sent Jesus to die in our place and that faith in Him brings salvation. Don't be ashamed of the Gospel. Share it!

Wednesday

[Rom. 1:16](#) For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

The Gospel of God is inclusive: the power of God for salvation to everyone. No matter your nationality or skin color, no matter your standing in society, education level, or bank balance, no matter your level of sinfulness, God's offer of the Gospel applies to every single one. Yet God's Gospel is also exclusive. It is available only to those who 'believe' upon God's Son and His sacrifice. You cannot buy or work your way into the Gospel. You cannot spend your way or learn your way into the favor of God. If you are to be saved you must believe upon the plan and sacrifice of God for your sin. You must give yourself to Jesus. He is Savior and Lord.

Thursday

[Rom. 1:18](#) For the wrath of God is revealed...

How was the 'wrath of God' revealed? Certainly through God's judgment as nations were destroyed, Israel was sent into exile, as disease and pain followed sinful behavior. Yet the manifestation of God's wrath was not fully seen in such scenarios. The fullness of God's wrath and sin's horror was seen as Jesus died for our sin upon the cross. Sin is so alien to the righteousness of God and so detestable in its nature that only the death of Jesus could satisfy its debt, guilt, and punishment. Our sin should never be seen as a mere harmless mistake. How horrible the sin which slayed the Savior.

Friday

[Rom. 1:22](#) Professing to be wise, they became fools...

The fool is revealed whenever a man or woman seeks to determine God's plan, God's will, or God's way apart from God's revealed Word. Whether we focus upon governmental plans, relational plans, or business plans: if we determine to follow God's word (His whole counsel) we will find truth, wisdom, and success. If we begin to act from our own instinct, our own traditions, our own reason (professing our own wisdom), then we will prove ourselves fools and suffer the consequences of our own foolishness. Look at your life and its many aspects. Are you following the sure and full counsel of God's revealed Word? Relationships? Business? Life?