

The Security of the Gospel
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Introduction:

1. Paul's letter to the Corinthians has to be one of the most depressing letters to a congregation.
2. Paul is clear to them that unless they repent of their ways they are in a bad situation with God
3. Paul in chapter 15 discusses their common bond and the essentiality of the gospel message. He wants them to understand that all the problems they have been having should not be happening if they truly understood the message of Christ

Discussion:

I. The Message

A. Jesus Christ

1. Specifically the Death, Burial, and the Resurrection
2. Without it there is no hope for mankind.

B. It was according to the Scriptures

1. The seed promise was made in the Garden and continued throughout the Old Testament
2. Seed of Women, Seed of Isaac, Judah, Branch of Jesse, Throne of David
3. Christ came and fulfilled all of those promises. (Galatians 3:29, 4:4, Romans 1:3)

II. The Means

A. It was made know by preaching

1. Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:13)
2. Preaching is preaching Christ and Him crucified (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)
3. We have to realize that there is not a subject in the word of God that does not go back to Christ and Him crucified. We do all things because of what He has done for us.

B. It was of first importance

1. By being of First importance it also happened to be the first thing He preached to them (Acts 18:1-5)
2. By being of first importance also means that it is the first step into becoming a Christian.
3. By being of first importance it holds the most weight in Paul's teaching and preaching.

C. It was also made known by Jesus

1. Jesus appeared to people after His resurrection.
2. It was more than just a few people it was over 500
3. It was made known to Paul and it is why he was so convicted

III. The Meaning

A. Christians can stand firm in their faith!

1. Once a person receives the word, they are able to stand firm in the word
2. One needs to hold fast to that word to remain faithful
3. Belief is not enough, one needs to hold fast to the word so they do not believe in vain.

B. The Message of the Cross and Christ is what saves a person from death!

1. Paul is going to expand on this idea through the rest of the chapter.
2. Without Jesus there is no remission of sins
3. We can have no doubt that Jesus came because of all the witnesses that saw Him and could not deny who He was.
4. Those who claim that Jesus did not really die, cannot explain away all the witnesses who saw Him after His resurrection.

Conclusion:

1. The most essential teaching to a Christian, is the teaching about the cross of Jesus Christ
2. Paul taught us that it is not about the physical things of this earth but it's about Christ and His Sacrifice
3. When studying with the world, Jesus and the teachings about the Kingdom need to be of first importance!