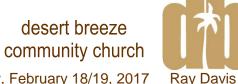
Certainty... in a world of doubt The Gospel of Luke



Saturday & Sunday, February 18/19, 2017

"Deconstructing Religion" Luke 4:16-30

To most people in our society, Christianity is religion and moralism. If you can't show the difference between religion and Christianity people will confuse morality with a changed heart. The gospel is neither religion nor irreligion, but something else entirely – a third way of relating to God through grace. Jesus' teaching consistently offended the Bible-believing, religious people of His day while attracting the irreligious.

What Is the Gospel?

It is God's <u>unmerited favor</u> through the <u>merit</u> of Jesus. Vv18-19

- ✓ Good news to the Poor 2Cor8:9; James 1:9-11 Spiritual wealth
- ✓ Release to the Captives Rom6:23; 8:1, 3 Free from the penalty of sin.
- ✓ Sight to the Blind 2Cor4:4; Matt13:13,16 Spiritual sight
- ✓ <u>Freedom</u> to the Oppressed Rom8:2, 4; John 8:31-32 Free from the power of sin

Note their response: v22 They were not upset because they were filtering it through their religious world view. So, in verses 23-30 Jesus clarifies who He is sent to. Who are the poor?

Who Is It For?

V18 only the spiritually poor & especially the actually poor vv25-27 Widow of Zarephath (1Kgs 17:8-24) & Naaman (2 Kgs 5:1-27)

- ✓ People of different <u>ethnic</u> backgrounds.
- ✓ People of different <u>socioeconomic</u> backgrounds.
- ✓ People of different political backgrounds.
- ✓ People with <u>dark</u> pasts and <u>current</u> struggles.

Jesus says to the respectable religious leaders "the tax collectors and the prostitutes enter the kingdom before you" (Matt21:31). All you need is need!

Why It Causes a Riot or a Revival? Vv28-30

Religion Gospel

Morally restrained will Supernaturally transformed

by fear and/or pride heart by God's love

I obey; therefore I obey; because I God owes me forever owe God

Entitlement Wonder/Gratitude

Bad Circumstances: Bad Circumstances:
Anger/Blame Suffer well (2Cor6:10)

Criticized: <u>Defensive</u> Criticized: <u>Teachable</u>

Superiority/Inferiority

(Ethnic, social, political or religious idolatry)

Humble Confidence

(My Identity is in Christ Jesus or religious idolatry) who died for His enemies)

Prayer: mainly <u>lists</u> Prayer: mainly <u>love</u>

Only heats up in need Enjoy practicing His presence

Consumer: Self-serving Covenant: self-sacrificing

Growing Notes

- 1) Read the introduction of the sermon notes. What are your thoughts? What is the difference between religion, irreligion and the gospel? Why is it so important to know the difference?
- 2) Read Luke 4:16-30. What stands out to you? What did Jesus customarily do on the Sabbath (v16)? What happened once Jesus entered the synagogue (vv17-20)? How did Jesus apply the passage He read in Isaiah (v21)? How did the people respond (vv22)? How did the people respond after Jesus clarifies His message (vv23-30)?
- **3)** What do verses 18-19 tell us about not only Jesus' ministry but also the gospel? The gospel is for not only the spiritually poor (v18) but also especially the actually poor (underdogs, marginalized, outcasts--Matt21:31). Explain. How does Jesus illustrate this (vv25-27)?
- **4)** What does it mean that to receive the benefits of the Gospel (vv18-19) all you need is <u>need</u> (James 4:6)? Why do you think that when the Gospel is clearly understood it will cause either a riot or a revival (vv28-29)? Review the list contrasting Religion vs. Gospel? What is the Holy Spirit speaking to you? Pray.