

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself - Week 3

The Gospel's Effect on My Response to Circumstances

Weekly Recap

Of Class

- The Gospel is not just for conversion; it is also for daily life and godliness
- The goal of this class is to learn how to extract applicable, life-changing truths from the Gospel message and then to apply them to become more like Christ!

The Gospel

- God, Man, Christ, Response

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

- Reflecting on the truth of the Gospel message to stimulate a response of right thinking and right action

Why?

- Galatians 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”
- Romans 12:1 – “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.”

Week 3

Premise – The more absorbed I am in the gospel, the more grateful I become in the midst of my circumstances, whatever they may be.

Object Lesson

1. My cup is full of wrath
2. Jesus takes all the wrath meant for me
3. My cup is now empty of wrath!
 - a. My response – THANK YOU LORD FOR THE HOPE OF HEAVEN!
4. If God were to give me even the slightest bit of blessings = GOD IS SO GRACIOUS!
5. The truth is that the Gospel tells me that I am filled up with every spiritual blessing in Christ! (Eph. 1:3)
 - a. My response ought to be even greater rejoicing than before!
 - i. Like the Psalmist in Psalm 23
 - b. I am extremely blessed!

Milton Vincent - "As for my specific earthly circumstances of plenty or want, I can see them always as infinite improvements on the hell I deserve."

Based on our discussion, what are some practical ways the Gospel should change the way I view my circumstances?

Trials

- Does the Gospel have anything say on how we respond to trials?
 - We can have hope in trials (Rom. 5:1-5)
 - Trials are for my good and God's glory
 - Rom. 8:28-29; James 1:2-4; 2 Cor. 12:9-10

All Circumstances

- The way the Gospel affects how we view our circumstances is...
 - I am grateful for the wrath I'm not receiving!
 - I'm grateful for the blessings that are given to me!

Milton Vincent - "Life's blessings, however small, always appear exceedingly precious when viewed against the backdrop of the wrath I deserve"

- We now desire to give thanks in every circumstance (1 Thess. 5:18)
- We fight for contentment like Paul in Phil. 4