

Mighty to Save 2021-09-26

Romans 1:16-17....Luther slide

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.

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Paton painting historical moment with innumerable effects on world, LEFC, you.

- essence of Christianity. theme of Romans, most important verse in all literature/history.
- response can totally alter your earthly life and determine your eternity.
 - Gospel is mighty to save all who believe it by faith. Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 1:18, 23

Not ashamed: knew from experience what Gospel is (power of God) and does (save).

- power = dunamis (Greek) *dynamite*. emphasis on force rather than process.
 - not descriptive of how Gospel is effective but guarantees it is effective.

unlimited capacity: ALL who personally believe whatever background

- Jew 1st = chronologically... came 1st in history to Jews. John 4:22

unlimited power to do humanly impossible: make dead eternally alive and fit for the Kingdom of God.

- Rescue from God's wrath/judgement/hell...deliver from penalty, power, ultimately presence of sin and reconcile to God. Romans 8:3-4, 1 Corinthians 1:21
 - only Gospel power do that but how? reveals righteousness of God!
Romans 1:17

not lead with love of God in Gospel but righteousness of God. Gospel displays God's love. Romans 5:8

- righteousness of God problem because all sinners deserving wrath/punish.
 - Ashamed of Gospel when water down/compromise Gospel

Absolute perfect holy/ righteousness needed to stand before holy/right God.

- righteousness of God: His, pure moral character and always acts with righteousness/holy.
 - His perfect righteousness is standard that must be met to spend eternity with God.

Not have or able attain....so God's righteousness demands He justly punishes all sin.

- Salvation requires righteousness /justice of God somehow upheld/applied to guilty sinner.
 - Gospel shows how sinners acquire righteousness God demands.

God must & does freely give righteousness we need.....perfect, divine righteousness in Jesus Christ.

- Jesus is intrinsically righteous as God and righteous by perfectly obeying law of God on earth.

○ Gospel reveals how Jesus perfect righteousness applied to guilty sinner. Jesus died to pay penalty of sinners who put faith in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21, Romans 3:26

- God declares sins punished in Jesus Christ and thinks of Jesus' righteousness as belonging to sinner.
 - God's justice is done fully, and He is perfectly righteous in the way He's done it.

faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition necessary to appropriate power of God for salvation

- Faith is the means men are saved and saved men live. Romans 1:16b-17, Phiippians 1 3:9, 1 Peter 1:5
 - "from faith to faith" for justification and life-blood for sanctification.
 - Marriage begin/continue with love... "from love to love"
 - "believes" present participle, not single event, but ongoing, lifelong process.....Gospel saves because it keeps believers believing.

Gospel is mighty to save all who believe it by faith. Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

- Rescue from God's just wrath/judgement/eternity in hell.
 - reconcile to God, fellowship with God, blessed/sanctified by God.
- Salvation is not received or sustained by own efforts but by God's gracious free gift of faith....from start to finish.