

The Need For The Gospel

Eph.4:17-24

7-25-2010

Jesus said of himself: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know the Father as well." The tragedy of every generation is that this fact is not known and if heard not understood or accepted. The sad reality is that the Gospel, although desperately needed, is often times rejected. (Heb.4:1-3) The testimony of those who have gone on before us is that the message must be combined with faith.

The need remains for the gospel so that some might be saved by the removal of their ignorance while others stand in condemnation not just because of their rejection but because of their wickedness. God does not desire any to perish but rather He desires that they would come to repentance and live. (Acts 17:30-31; 2Pet.3:9)

Paul gives us understanding concerning the condition that ignorance creates. He indicates that ignorance is a condition of the heart being hardened. This ignorance brings a darkening of the understanding and a separation from life. (Eph.4:17-19) The pre-hardened heart might come with a built in sensitivity towards God but the pursuit of the sensual brings indulgence which brings hardening. (1Pet.1:14; Rom.1:18-32)

In defense of the lost I would plead their cause, they are not lost entirely on their own. They have been lead away from the truth by the enemy of all humanity. This enemy hates human beings and labors hard for their destruction. (Rev.12:12)

The following passages show the truth of what satan labors at:

- 2Cor.4:1-4 ...the god of this world has blinded the mind of unbelieving...
- 2Thes.2:5-12 ...and every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing...
- Eph.2:1-3 ...you followed the ways of this world and the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of at one time...
- Eph.2:11-13 ...remember you gentiles...you were separated from Christ...without hope and without God in the world...
- Titus 3:3 ...at one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved...

This is the condition of the world. This is what all of us were stuck in, and some might still be there. Everyone who has not come to know God through Jesus and accepted Him as their Lord and Savior is still lost and condemned and enslaved and deceived.

Jesus said that who ever will acknowledge Him before men, He will acknowledge before His Father in heaven. (Mat.10:32-33) You who are already redeemed by the blood of the lamb have some obligation to those around you who are not yet saved. You have within you the words of life to be shared. (Phil.2:14-16)

Remember that it was Jesus who rescued you, you were not more deserving than your companions for we all had the same need, therefore be gracious and thankful and joyous in your salvation. (Col.1:13-14) Share it.