The Testimony of a Soul-Winner

Romans 1:14-16

22 March 2024

<u>THEME</u>: We come into contact with people who are lost and on their way to hell every day. Yet, we do nothing to reach them. Why do we not tell them? We do not lead others to Christ because we do not have a heart like the apostle Paul. "*He that winneth souls is wise*." (Proverbs 11:30).

I. <u>I AM DEBTOR (1:14)</u>

- Paul recognized that he had a responsibility to tell others about Jesus Christ.
 - A. We Fail Because We are Ungrateful (1Timothy 1:12-16)
 - **a.** "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners." (vs 15) If you don't care about sinners, you don't care about what Jesus cares about.
 - **b.** "...for a pattern." (vs 16). The purpose of Paul's salvation was to show others how Christ will save any sinner who will come to Him.
 - i. God saves the foolish, the weak, and the basest of men (1 Cor. 1:26-29).
 - **ii.** Our heart should break whenever we remember what Christ did for us.
 - B. We Owe a Debt to Christ (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)
 - C. We Owe a Debt to Others (Romans 13:8; 1Corinthians 15:34)
 - a. We owe it to people to give them the opportunity to know Jesus Christ.
 - **b.** If people don't know about the Lord, we should be ashamed that we didn't tell them.
 - D. We Have a Responsibility to do Whatever we Can to See People Saved (1 Corinthians 9:19-22)
 - a. In Romans 1:14, Paul said, "I'm a debtor—"
 - 1. "To the Greeks" the civilized people!
 - 2. "To the barbarians" the uncivilized.
 - 3. "To the wise" the educated
 - 4. "To the unwise" the ignorant (the uneducated; those who don't know much).
 - 5. "To all men" (1Corinthians 9:19-22)

II. <u>I AM READY (1:15)</u>

- A. We Fail Because We are Unprepared
- **B. We Must be Spiritually Ready** [Ready refers to a readiness to act; nothing between you and the deed except the opportunity to do something]
- **C.** We Must be Consciously Ready [Ready refers to a readiness of mind: Acts 17:11]
- D. We Must be Mentally Ready; ready to give an answer to every man (1Pet 3:15)

III. I AM NOT ASHAMED (1:16)

- A. We Fail Because We are Ashamed (Romans 10:11)
- B. We Must Know the Gospel of Christ (1Corinthians 15:1-4)
- C. We Must Believe in the Power of the Gospel (1Corinthians 1:18)
- D. We Must Proclaim the Gospel of Christ (Romans 10:12-15)

IV. WHAT CAN WE DO?

- **A. We Can Provide so that Others May Go** this is the easiest of all, but we must not stop here.
- B. We Can Pray for the Lost generally and specifically
- C. We Can Publish the Word through tracts, letters, etc.
- **D. We Can Prepare Ourselves to Witness** by growing spiritually and learning how to witness and answer the questions people have.
- **E.** We Can Proclaim the Gospel by speaking to others about their condition and need.