

The Work of an Evangelist

❖ **2 Timothy 4:5 (NKJV)**

“But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist**, fulfill your ministry.”

❖ **Titus 1:3 (NKJV)**

“But has in due time **manifested His word through preaching**, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior;”

❖ **Titus 1:3 (AMP)**

“And [now] in His own appointed time He has made manifest (made known) His Word *and* revealed it as His message through the preaching entrusted to me by command of God our Savior;”

God manifests, reveals His Word through preaching.

- I. **The authority of the Word of God and the call of God are our authority to preach.**

The Gospel is the power of God

❖ **Romans 1:16**

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

The word of God is the power of God

❖ **Hebrews 4:12**

"For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

The Cross is the power of God

❖ **1 Corinthians 1:18**

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

Preaching releases the power of God.

II. Proclamation Evangelism is The Great Commission

The noun "kerygma" is the official message of the King's herald.

The kerygma is the proclamation preached, the content of the "preaching".

❖ **1 Corinthians 1:21-23**

"For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,"

Paul uses here the word "kerygmatos" (proclamation) stating that the Gospel is the preaching of "Christ crucified."

A historical survey of ancient times:

The official "Kerux" – (herald of the King or Emperor, The preacher) would stand in the market place or public arena and blow a trumpet, calling attention to the official Edict of the ruler.

The Kerux's proclamation was literally a command to be obeyed. To reject it meant you rejected the King's rule in your life, resulting in the King's wrath.

The Gospel only comes by proclamation.

The Kerygma refers to both the act and content of the proclamation.

The preacher is both the deliverer of the message, yet at the same time he is the message.

Preachers are the divinely appointed means for the visible expression of the Kingdom of God.

We must recognize our obligation and accept its responsibility within the urgency of time.

A harvest not reaped in time is a wasted harvest.

❖ **Matthew 24:14**

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."

❖ **Mark 13:10**

"And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations."

❖ **Luke 24:47**

"and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

❖ **2 Peter 3:12**

"looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?"

Some biblical words to convey proclamation:

1. Declaration
2. Announcement
3. Pronouncement
4. Decree
5. Edict
6. To bear witness
7. Preach
8. Make known
9. Evangelize
10. Communicate

11. Prophecy
12. Apologetic
13. Speak the oracles of God

Preaching is in a sense both an appeal and a proclamation.

The Apostle Paul affirms this when he calls himself an Ambassador of Christ beseeching man then to be reconciled to God.

❖ **2 Corinthians 5:18-20**

"Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

The Kerux's voice is as the voice of the ruler.

Entire cities were wiped out in both Biblical times and Roman times, not heeding the King's Kerux, the preacher.

Evangelists must have a sense of divine commissioning that demands obedience, faithfulness, responsibility and integrity *in their lives*.

For the Kerux to fail, it meant the people would perish.

Paul understood this well:

❖ **Romans 1:14-16**

"I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, *I am* ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

❖ **1 Corinthians 9:16**

"For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!"

*****The Kerux never chooses his message*****

His message is given to him by royal edict.

He has no right to change the message, or leave part of the message out.

Some might preach “another gospel”, but we cannot.

❖ **Galatians 1:6-10**

"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ."

The Gospel has come by revelation. Preach it faithfully.

❖ **1 Corinthians 1:17**

"For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect."

III. What is our message?

❖ **1 Corinthians 15:1-5**

"Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve."

We preach:

- 1. Christ – His life, death, burial and resurrection**
- 2. The Gospel of Peace**

❖ **Romans 10:15**

"And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:
"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,
Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

- 3. The Gospel of the Grace of God**

❖ **Acts 20:24**

"But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

- 4. The Gospel of God**

❖ **Romans 1:1**

"Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God"

- 5. The Gospel of our Salvation**

❖ **Ephesians 1:13**

"In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,"

- 6. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God**

❖ **Acts 28:31**

"preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him."

7. The Gospel of Reconciliation

❖ 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

"Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

8. Preach the Word

❖ 2 Timothy 4:1-5

"I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

IV. Gospel preaching will be ACCREDITED by God

❖ Matthew 4:23

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people."

Jesus' ministry summary statement:

- 1) Teaching in the synagogues
- 2) Preaching the gospel of the Kingdom
- 3) Healing all kinds of sickness and disease among the people

In the New Testament, proclamation was always more than verbal communication.

- There is always a physical demonstration that our message is of divine origin by the demonstration of the power of God.

Our mission, (should we choose to accept it), is to present Jesus alive by many infallible proofs (convincing, irrefutable, undeniable evidence, like the lame man being healed in Acts 3:1-10).

For Apostolic Thinking

❖ **Acts 1:22**

“beginning with the baptism by John [at the outset of Jesus’ ministry] until the day when He was taken up from us—one of these men *must become a witness with us [to testify] of His resurrection.*”

❖ **Acts 4:33**

“And with great ability *and* power the apostles were *continuously* testifying to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace [God’s remarkable lovingkindness and favor and goodwill] rested richly upon them all.”

*****Proclamation with power demonstration is the New Testament pattern*****

❖ **Acts 10:38**

"how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

❖ **Acts 2:22**

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—”

❖ **Romans 15:18-20**

"For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient— in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation,"

❖ **1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

"And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

❖ **Acts 1:8**

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."