

What is Preaching?

(1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

Introduction:

1. Preaching the gospel has been under great fire in our age of amusement.
2. Many wants to change the preaching of the gospel to something more amusing to them.
 - a. Many of those wanting to change preaching lack an understanding of what preaching is.
3. As a member of the body of Christ, you should seek to abide by the means that God wants His message taken into the world.

I. The Foolishness of Preaching

- A. Depending on your lifestyle, preaching is either foolishness or power. (1 Corinthians 1:18)
 1. A lifestyle determines an outlook.
 2. A view of preaching tells something of one's _____. (Matthew 19:16-22)
- B. Many today see preaching as something "old-fashioned," "old-school," "out-dated."
 1. This view is even seen in many of the body of Christ.
 2. This view is seen by many in the religious world.
 - a. Those who see preaching as outdated must also think God's wisdom is outdated. (1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

II. The Wisdom of God

- A. Through His wisdom, God chose _____. (1 Corinthians 1:21)
- B. God chose something the world sees as foolishness. (1 Corinthians 1:21-25)
 1. Man's ways are not God's ways. (Isaiah 55:8,9)
 2. "It is not in man to direct his own steps." (Jeremiah 10:23)
 - a. Example of David being chosen as king. (1 Samuel 16:7-13)
 - b. See Proverbs 14:12.
- C. The wisdom of God is power. (Romans 1:16)
- D. The wisdom of God is the power to save. (1 Corinthians 1:21)
- E. The wisdom of God is to tell men what they _____ to hear instead of what they want to hear. (2 Timothy 4:2-4)
 1. Remember Paul in Acts 24:25?

III. What Ways Does God Want the Message Taught

- A. God wants the message preached. (1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 2 Timothy 4:2-4)
- B. No where in the scriptures do we find anyone putting on a play or drama teams, etc. to preach or teach the word of God.
 1. Today, these things come to fill people's quest for amusement
 2. Have we become ashamed of the preaching of the gospel? (Roman 1:16)
- C. Today, as always, people need to hear the whole counsel of God. (Acts 20:27)

Conclusion:

1. Now, more than ever, the word of God must be preached and taught by the ways God intended. (1 Corinthians 1:18-25)
2. Men today need to leave the wisdom of man and turn to the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:18-25).