

HINDERING THE GOSPEL

TEXT: 1 Cor. 9:12.

INTRODUCTION:

A. The gospel is a sacred trust.

1. 1 Thess. 2:4.
2. 1 Tim. 1:11.

B. Paul received it from God- 1 Thess. 1:5.

C. The gospel is the power of God to salvation- Rom. 1:16.

D. There is no greater ministry in the world- Lk. 4:18.

BODY: HOW CAN WE HINDER THE GOSPEL TODAY?

HINDER is from ENKOPTO- making a cut in the road or breaking up the road or placing an obstacle in the path.

I. WE HINDER THE GOSPEL WHEN WE DON'T PREACH IT.

A. Jesus Wants the Story Told.

1. Matt. 28:18-20.
2. Mark 16:15, 16.

B. The Early Church Obeyed That Commission.

1. Acts 1:8.
2. Acts 5:42.
3. Acts 8:4.

C. It Was The Passion and Purpose of Paul- 1 Cor. 9:16.

D. The Burden is Now on Our Shoulders.

II. WE HINDER THE GOSPEL WHEN WE DO NOT LIVE IT.

- A. Some Show by their Lives that They Are Living For Satan-2 Cor. 4:3-4.
- B. Many People are Blaming Christians For Their Lostness- 2 Cor. 6:3.
- C. We Must Live What We Preach.
 - 1. 1 Cor. 2:4.
 - 2. Phil. 1:27.

III. WE HINDER THE GOSPEL WHEN WE DON'T SUPPORT IT.

- A. We Should Support it Morally- Heb. 10:24-27.
- B. We Should Support it Financially- 1 Cor. 9:14.
- C. There are Principles That Govern Our Presence and Our Pocketbooks.
 - 1. 1 Cor. 16:1-2.
 - 2. 2 Cor. 9:6-7.
 - 3. Are you robbing God? Mal. 3:8-10. **"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me! But you say. In what way have we robbed you? In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me. Even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And prove Me now in this says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessings that there will not be room enough to receive it."**
 - 4. Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35.

IV. WE HINDER THE GOSPEL WHEN WE DO NOT DEFEND IT.

- A. This is not something we can do if we want it is as a command- Jude 3.
- B. The reason we must defend it is given- Jude 4.
- C. Against What Should We Defend It?
 - 1. Perversions- Gal. 1:6-10.

2. From those who add to it or take from it- Rev. 22:18-19.
3. From anything that would defile it.

V. WE HINDER THE GOSPEL WHEN WE DON'T OBEY IT.

A. First, What Will Happen To Those Who Don't Obey The Gospel?

1. 1 Peter 4:17-18.
2. 2 Thess. 1:7-9.

B. How Do We Obey The Gospel.

1. Rom. 6:1-18.
2. Mark 16:15-16.
3. Acts 2:38.

C. Your Influence May Be Hindering A Loved One Or Friend From Coming.

CONCLUSION:

A. Are you guilty of hindering the gospel of Christ? By:

1. Not Preaching it.
2. Not living it.
3. Not supporting it.
4. Not defending it.
5. Not obeying it.

B. Heaven is worth striving for. Julius Caesar, going towards Rome with his army, and hearing that the Senate and the people had fled from it, said, "They that will not fight for this city, what city will they fight for?" If we will not fight for the kingdom of heaven and put out a little effort, what kingdom will we fight for? --Spurgeon.

C. Come To Jesus:

1. Come into Him- Gal. 3:26-27.
2. Abide in Him- Jn. 15:4.
3. Die in Him- Rev. 14:13.