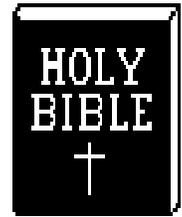


SERMON NOTES

Speaker: James E. Rogers
Date: February 21, 2016
Place: Smyrna, Cookeville, Tennessee
Subject: The Gospel Produces A Stir



I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Acts 19:23-41. "No small stir" means a great stir.
- B. The cause of the "stir" was "the Way" (Acts 19:23). This describes the Christian Way or Christianity produced by the preaching of the gospel (Acts 19:9; 9:2; 22:4; 24:14).
- C. The preaching of the gospel (affirming there is only one God) had disrupted the financial security of some in Ephesus. Acts 19:24-27. The gospel had invaded a pagan stronghold.
- D. Christians had the reputation of "turning the world upside down." Acts 17:6
- E. Are we causing a stir with the gospel? Let us study this matter seriously.

II. THE GOSPEL MAY PRODUCE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE STIR

- A. The gospel sometimes produces a favorable stir. Acts 2:36-47; 8:5-13. One may be saved when the gospel produces such a stir in the heart (2 Corinthians 7:10).
- B. The gospel sometimes produces an unfavorable stir. Acts 6:8-7:60; 19:23-41
 - 1. The gospel produces an unfavorable stir because repudiation of error upsets those who profess it.
 - a. To preach one God upsets the idolater and atheist.
 - b. To preach Divine creation upsets the evolutionist.
 - c. To preach immortality upsets the materialist.
 - d. To preach the authority of the Scriptures upsets the modernist.
 - e. To preach one body upsets the denominationalist.
 - 2. The gospel produces an unfavorable stir because rebuking unfaithfulness upsets the unfaithful Christian.
 - a. Preaching against the use of alcoholic beverages upsets the ones who have it in their refrigerator at home or want to consume it elsewhere.
 - b. Preaching against dancing upsets the dancers.

- c. Preaching against immodesty upsets the immodest.
- d. Preaching against tobacco use upsets the growers, sellers and users.
- e. Preaching against backbiting and gossip upsets the backbiters and gossips.

C. An unfavorable stir may become a favorable stir. Some become angry and beside themselves when their sins are condemned but later come to themselves and obey (Luke 15:17).

III. THE PURPOSE OF THE GOSPEL PRODUCES A STIR

- A. The gospel dispels darkness with light. Acts 26:18; 1 Peter 2:9
- B. The gospel spreads purity in a world of immorality. 1 Timothy 5:22
- C. The gospel promotes forbearance in an unreasonable world. Philippians 4:5
- D. The gospel convicts of sin in a sin-loving world. 2 Thessalonians 2:12

IV. THE PECULIARITY OF THE GOSPEL PRODUCES A STIR

A. The gospel is not a way of looking at things, but God's way of looking at everything. This peculiar gospel will lead one from earth to heaven.

- 1. It produces a peculiar way of thinking. Philippians 4:8
- 2. It produces a peculiar way of feeling. Acts 8:37-39
 - a. It provides contentment in an discontented world. 1 Timothy 6:8
 - b. It provides security in an insecure world. Matthew 6:19-34
- 3. It produces a peculiar way of acting.
 - a. It makes one a nonconformist. Romans 12:2
 - b. It gives one self-control. 1 Corinthians 9:27
 - c. It causes one to live a lifestyle worthy of the gospel. Philippians 1:27

B. A contaminated, watered-down gospel will not produce a stir.

V. THE PLAN TO PRODUCE A STIR TODAY WITH THE GOSPEL

A. We may produce a stir today with the gospel if we:

- 1. Become excited about the product; the gospel. Romans 1:14-16

2. Expose ourselves to the prospects; the lost. Mark 16:15

3. Expect the carry out the plan; preach the gospel. 2 Timothy 2:2

B. Will we produce a stir with the gospel?

VI. CONCLUSION

A. The gospel will always cause a stir when presented truthfully.

B. Obey the gospel plan of salvation.

C. Live faithfully.