

## FACETS OF PREACHING

1/3/15

*Jesus predicted a time when preaching the gospel of the indwelling kingdom would be a world wide event. With the failure of the traditional Christian nations to uphold God given values, the gospel is now being preached and well received in many developing nations. Moral, social and economic corruptions have riddled the West and are mostly irreversible... avoidance of nuclear war is almost inescapable.*

*Jesus was well aware of the unbelief that was to come at the end of the age. **MAT 24:14** And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. These verses are prophetic and are not scriptures containing personal directions. However, he does give some specific revelation relating to preaching and its expectations... at this point no one knew any nation outside of biblical Israel would have equal opportunity to access God's salvation power and covenant.*

*Jesus also gave some specific directions to his disciples, which would equally flow to the church. **MAT 28:19** Go ye therefore, and teach (make disciples) all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Not all of the teaching required to make a disciple, can occur within the salvation message alone. **20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you (These verses are the full process relating to both conversion and whole of life development): and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world (timeframe of the commandment). The gospel is a lifetime of actions.*

*Preaching the gospel is a team effort. **EPH 4:11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: there is a spiritual role for everyone when it comes to gospel living.*

*The gospel is not just for the evangelists and not just for new people. **ROM 1:8** First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. The church is well established and yet he still offers to teach them the gospel... **15** So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. Thus every meeting is a gospel meeting, every responsibility is a gospel requirement. Paul wasn't preaching conversion to the Romans, but rather continuing the conversion process... discipleship. Thus, the term 'gospel of the kingdom' referred to in Mat 24 above. The fruit, the gifts, etc., are all aspects of responding to the preaching of the gospel.*

*The strength of the gospel and its workings are not based on natural strengths. **1COR 1:26** For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: **27** But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; **28** And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: **29** That no flesh should glory in his presence. The church is not a professional outfit like many business entities, where top flight and highly skilled experts are employed. Rather, it is made up of ordinary people (some quite lowly in natural talents), to go and do his ministry... that is, to preach, teach and apply the gospel in all its facets.*

*When we get our minds around the fact that the church is made up of numerous lowly people, many with failings and difficulties; then we can start building the type of church that God wants built. **PRO 14:4** Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox (there is also continual messes to clean up). When people are saved, their baggage comes with them. God heals, forgives and delivers, but sins and failings don't all vanish the moment someone receives the Holy Spirit. A smoker may not be healed of their addiction so we work and pray together till the victory is gained. The very process of living life will provide numerous ongoing difficulties and problems (some new some old)... this is normal for a healthy and spiritually sound church.*

*Overcoming weaknesses and failings, gives us our strength... not super human idealism or legalistic gospel teaching. **2COR 4:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. Strength or weakness aren't our problem... the gospel is God's domain; thus we live in it.*

*The gospel isn't about numbers. It's not about how big our church is, whether we have a building or not, whether we are meeting every perception of success. When we're preaching all the facets of the gospel, both to ourselves and to others, it sets us free. The ongoing results lasts for eternity! We are all part of it, we all have to contribute. This is how the gospel of God's kingdom works... just as God designed it.*