

LESSON THREE

The Punishment of the Gospel— Woe to Those Who Do Not Preach the Gospel

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 9:16; Ezek. 3:17-21 / Hymn: 930

- I. **The only commission of the church on earth is to preach the gospel; if the church does not preach the gospel, it has failed its commission and degraded—1 Tim 2:4; Matt 28:18-20.**
- II. **The Lord's recovery is not only a recovery of truth and life but even more a recovery of gospel preaching—2 Tim 3:16; 1 Tim 3:15; John 14:6; 11:25; 10:10; Mark 16:15.**
- III. **The church is the lampstand as the testimony of the Triune God, the testimony of Jesus, and to preach the gospel is to testify of the Lord Jesus; so if the church does not preach the gospel, it would lose its testimony—Rev. 2:4-5:**
- IV. **“Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel”—1 Cor. 9:16:**
 - A. If we do not preach the gospel, we would lose the joy of our salvation.
 - B. If we do not preach the gospel, we would become old.
 - C. Eating without exercise is unhealthy; spiritually, it is the same.
 - D. A sea with only inflow without outflow would soon become a dead sea; if we do not let the water of life flowing out of us, we too would soon become a spiritual dead sea—John 4:14; 7:37-38.
 - E. Those who do not preach the gospel would easily become lukewarm and lose the burden for people—Rev. 3:15.
 - F. Those who do not bear fruit would be cut off from the Lord as the true vine—John 15:2.
 - G. Those who do not preach the gospel would lose the gift of gospel preaching, and every believer has the gift of gospel preaching—Matt. 25:28-29.
 - H. The evil and slothful slaves who become useless to the Lord will be cast into the outer darkness, where there will be the weeping and gnashing of teeth—v. 30.
- V. **Not preaching the gospel is to admit defeat, disarm ourselves, and surrender to Satan—Matt. 12:29.**
- VI. **Not preaching the gospel is to delay the Lord's return—Matt 24:14; Rom 11:25.**
- VII. **Those who do not preach the gospel are selfish persons, caring only for their own enjoyment regardless of whether others live or die; how many relatives,**

friends, neighbors, and classmates will tragically perish in the lake of fire because believers fail their duty to preach the gospel.

VIII. O Lord, make me a gospel preacher!