LESSON TWO

The Reward of the Gospel— Joy and Crown

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 9:16-23; Matt 24:45-47; 25:14-23; Psa. 116:5-6; John 4:36; Phil. 4:1; 1 Thes. 2:19-20 / Hymn: 1349

- I. Preaching the gospel is pleasing to the Lord, is approved by Him, and will be rewarded by Him—1 Cor. 9:16-18.
- II. Preaching the gospel makes sinners sons of God that Christ may be multiplied and reproduced, His Body may be built up, and God's purpose may be accomplished; this is the subject of the book of Romans—Rom. 3:9, 23; 8:29; 12:4-5.

III. The benefit and reward of gospel preaching:

- A. Gospel preaching causes us to experience a deeper and greater joy—Phil. 4:1; 1 Thes. 2:19-20.
- B. Gospel preaching vitalizes us; those who announce the gospel live from the gospel—1 Cor. 9:14.
- C. Gospel preaching sanctifies our living and helps us grow in life—1 Thes. 2:8-10.
- D. Gospel preaching causes us to experience God's organic salvation that our weakness may be made strong and our gloom turned to song—Acts 16:19-40.
- E. Gospel preaching causes us to experience the indwelling Spirit giving life to our mortal bodies—Rom 8:11.
- F. Gospel preaching helps us become overcomers.
- G. Gospel preaching helps us be constituted with the truth—Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:5.
- H. Gospel preaching causes us to be filled with the Spirit of God and the love of God that we may have more of the humanity of Jesus to sympathize with people—Acts 4:31; Rom. 5:5b.
- I. Gospel preaching causes us to realize that we have nothing and can do nothing by ourselves, so that we may deny the self and trust in God—Mark 8:29, 35.
- J. Gospel preaching causes us to come out of our self to be concerned about and care for others—Acts 16:19-40; 1 Cor. 9:23; 2 Tim 1:8.
- K. Gospel preaching causes us to learn the lesson of coordination that we may experience the real building—Mark 6:7; Luke 10:1; Phil 1:27.
- IV. Gospel preaching delivers people out of Satan's authority of darkness, releases them from the bondage of sin, transfers them into the kingdom of the Son of

God's love, and causes them to enjoy the joy of God's salvation—Acts 26:18; Col. 1:13; Isa. 12:3.

- V. Gospel preaching destroys Satan's authority of darkness, casts Satan out of the earth, and brings in the kingdom of God on earth that the whole earth may be filled with righteousness, peace, and the glory of God—Matt. 12:22-29.
- VI. Gospel preaching even promotes harmony and peace in society.
- VII. Therefore, we need to preach the gospel.