

## A Gospel Meeting

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Our Gospel meeting will soon be here
- B. A gospel meeting is one of the church's greatest assets:
  - 1. The "gospel" (word of God) is greatest message man can receive
  - 2. It is truly "good news"!
  - 3. It's God's power to save souls from eternal damnation Rom 1:16,17
  - 4. The book of Acts is filled with souls being saved as a result of this power!
- C. The gospel is an enduring message to all 1Pet 1:24-25
- D. Those who do not obey this gospel will suffer an eternal destruction! 2Thess 1:7-9
- E. That is why the gospel is so important for one to hear. Let us look at Cornelius' situation in Acts 10:

### DISCUSSION

#### I. LESSONS FROM CORNELIUS

- A. He sent for a preacher - one God recommended Acts 10:24-35
- B. God had a reason for sending Peter: so Peter could understand that gospel was not for Jews only but for all mankind (vs 34)
- C. Before Peter's arrival Cornelius got things ready & then gathered all his household & friends together to listen to what Peter had to say Acts 10:24,33
- D. Cornelius sent for a preacher to hear the good news of salvation.
  - 1. We have sent for a preacher - one I believe God would also recommend
  - 2. A man who's qualifications are soundness, spirituality, and ability Ezra 7:10; Eph 4:15
- E. Peter came prepared to preach the word of God and I am sure that Tim is prepared to preach God's word to us
- F. Cornelius got things ready for Peter's arrival by gathering his relatives and friends
  - 1. Are we going to be as ready when the meeting begins a week from today?
  - 2. Are we planning to be at each and every meeting with the enthusiasm as Cornelius showed?
  - 3. Are we working now to invite someone to come with us to the meeting? Acts 10:33

#### II. WHAT A GOSPEL MEETING CAN DO

- A. Can create faith in those that have never heard the gospel Romans 10:13-17
- B. Can save souls that may not have been won otherwise
  - 1. The gospel is the power of salvation to save souls! Mk 16:15,16
  - 2. Our primary purpose for having a gospel meeting is to win the lost to Christ
  - 3. This is done by teaching the truth about salvation John 8:32
  - 4. It is this truth that teaches us how we should live our lives Titus 2:11-12

- C. Can allow us to keep what we've got because preaching the gospel also builds & strengthens faith of Christians!
  - 1. Gospel is preached to strengthen all Christians Acts 20:32
  - 2. The meeting is needed to create "ENTHUSIASM" among members of the local body
    - a. One stick of wood will not make a big fire; but 50 or 60 would (We all need to be here to get a big fire)
    - b. "Enthusiasm" is needed on any endeavor that we pursue
  - 3. The meeting is needed so we can take "inventory" of ourselves 2Cor 13:5 disqualified (fail the test -NASB)
  - 4. A meeting can help revive those that have drifted into apathy 2Pet 1:12-13; Gal 5:7

#### III WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAKE THE MEETING A SUCCESS?

- A. Be present at all services Heb 10:23-25
- B. Sing with the spirit and the understanding Col 3:16; Eph 5:19
- C. Pray - Don't leave God out of God's work, we are all workers together with Him 2Cor 6:1
- D. Come prepared to study and learn from God's word Jhn 8:32
- E. Invite others
  - 1. The only way one can hear the good news is if they are here Let's be like Cornelius and invite our friends to hear the gospel
  - 2. God can't give any increase if seed is not planted 1Cor 3:6
- F. Sit toward the front
  - 1. To get the most out of the meeting
  - 2. To allow late comers and visitors to sit at the back
- G. Be friendly to visitors and ensure that we get their names and addresses for future follow-up
- H. Speak words of encouragement to all (Let others see your light shining)
  - 1. What a difference this will make!
  - 2. Others could see Cornelius' light shining! Matt 5:16
- I. Be sure everyone has a ride to get to the meeting

#### CONCLUSION:

- A. The only way this meeting can accomplish what it can and should accomplish is for us to do everything we can to make the meeting fulfill its purpose
- B. Hopefully, we now understand what a meeting can do and what our responsibility is in helping it fulfill its purpose.
- C. The question then arises, "am I doing all I know to do and can do for this meeting so others will be taught and I will be edified?"

from Richie Thetford revised by JLH