

- > **Good Morning**.... I come bearing "**Good News**".... The Good News - is that: Jesus Christ IS "**Lord, and Savior**"!

- > In my last podcast post ("**Ran It Out of Gas Again**"),
I spoke about: the IMAGE of the "**Face of Love**" (Jesus on the cross, abused & dying FOR US). I said believers should Never lose that Image, out of their mind or heart!

- In this message segment, I feel as though we must speak about: how we Must "**DO SOMETHING With That Image of Christ dying for us**".... (Should we just Treasure that Image in our hearts, for just Ourselves – or should it be Shared?... The answer should be obvious!)

- Let me now introduce you to **1 Thessalonians 2:1-4**, "*1 For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. 2 But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you, the gospel of God, in much conflict. 3 For our exhortation (our **strong urge** for you to hear our message), did not come from error or uncleanness, nor was it in deceit. 4 But, as we have been Approved by God, to be Entrusted with the gospel, **even so we speak, not as pleasing men - but to God, who tests our hearts.**" NKJV*

- **Wow, Paul said** that "**WE**" (**ALL believers**), are "**Approved** by God" - to be "**Entrusted with His Love-Message**", for others!.....(**I find it Amazing**, that God "**Approves of me**", *doing or saying anything for Him - **much less**, that He "**Entrusts me**", to Preach or Teach His "Good News Gospel" to the world! **Wow!**)*

--- So much of this message today, revolves around the word: "**Entrusted**"... *let's go ahead & define it.* This word means: "**To Put something Into someone's Care or Protection**" - "**To Assign the Responsibility for doing something**" - "**To be Faithful with something**" some **Synonyms** are: "**Assigned with**" - "**Commissioned with**" - "**Tasked with**"

> **Let's be clear** about: What we are "**Entrusted**" with! As **1 Thess. 2:4** said: we are, "**Entrusted with The Gospel**". ...(**Gospel in Greek is: "Euangelion"** ("U-on-ghel-ion") - *meaning: "Good news", or "Good message"*)

- **The Good News** is that: there would be **NO salvation** from our sins, or from an eternal-punishment in hell, APART FROM what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross, **for US**. Jesus came to this earth once, for the sole purpose of: dying a sinner's death on the cross, in our stead...(even though He *hadn't sinned at all*). There's NO other way to be saved from **God's Wrath to come** - **EXCEPT BY Accepting &**

Believing in Jesus Christ, and all He did to **satisfy** God's Wrath against our sins! **He ALONE**, makes us holy & presentable to God!

- **Jesus died to Purge us of our iniquities, so that Heaven's Gates would be open to us! And all we have to do, is: "Confess with our mouths, that Jesus IS Lord - and Believe in our hearts, that God raised Him from the dead" – then, God promises: "we WILL BE saved."**
- Before this Work of Jesus Christ, upon the earth - we had NO other way, to Truly be *cleansed* of our sins! What Good News "Jesus' Offer of Salvation" is to US! **That's The BEST News ever, that must be SHARED with the world?**

> **I'll try to ask 2 Questions, in an attempt to motivate 2 Thoughts...** and the first "Question/Thought" is:

1) **To Be, or Not to Be.... What is it TO BE "Approved & Entrusted" with, THE Greatest, and Most Important, message - that humanity still needs to hear?**

-- The word "Approved", rolls into the word: "Qualifications".
Here, God Personally Teaches us & Trains us, with all that we need to know, to handle His Message... *He even gives us His Holy Spirit, to Help us along the way!....* It's been said, "God doesn't call the Qualified, He Qualifies the called."

- **SO**, God's calling US **Qualified**, is a pretty Big deal... and it means that: He **believes** so strongly in us, and **trusts** us so greatly - that He is willing to **SEND US** to the world, to **Deliver** His Major Important Message! Wow!
- **Think of it like this:** What "**Qualifications**" do YOU want to see - in someone that YOU are going to Entrust, with YOUR greatest assets?
- **Ladies**, if your **purse** is so highly valuable to you - *Would you leave it with **a total stranger**, when you go to the lady's-room at a restaurant - hoping that all your goodies will still be inside, when you get back to it?*
- **Guys**, if your **truck** is so highly valuable to you - *Would you let **a total stranger** take it and use it - hoping that it will come back to you, in one piece?*
- **Parents**, If you are going on a date-night, and you have to leave YOUR **children** with someone - *Would it be with: someone **you know & trust** - someone that you **do not know**, but your friend uses them - or, someone that you found on the side of the street; **a total stranger** maybe?*
- * **You get it?...** **God** has "**Entrusted**" **YOU**, with something that is "**Utmost Important**" to Him, and to every human being walking the face of the earth - **The Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

- God **Believes** in us, **Trusts** us, and **Qualifies** us – **TO BE**
His spokespeople to the world!.... **Literally**, He wants YOU
to **Tote His Word**, to the unbelieving world – that they may
be saved!..(*that's an **Extraordinary Tasking/Assignment***)
- **So**, in the older (*more antiquated*) days, "**Top Secret & Secret**"
documents were carried in a Briefcase – with the Briefcase
being handcuffed to the Courier's wrist! The Courier was
Approved by Top officials, and **Entrusted** with, completing
the task of: **hand-carrying** these special documents, to the
person(s) who had need of seeing them! The courier did this,
KNOWING that there was a high Risk of them sustaining a
loss to their personal limbs, or possibly even to their life!
...(*they might receive persecution for carrying the message!*)
- **But**, the power of the point, is that: the courier was
"**Entrusted**" (*by high officials*), to **Carry & Deliver** those
important documents. Other people's lives, depended on
those documents making to the people in charge! **Likewise**,
All of Jesus' people, are TO BE Couriers of His Important
message! We have been "**Assigned**", "**Commissioned**",
"**Tasked**" (*by The Highest Official ever – God*), to **Hand-**
carry & Deliver His Most Valuable, Good News, Message, to
the world.... *the salvation of other people's lives, absolutely*
depends on this!.....

...**JUST**, one Big thing: We also must **Realize**, that we are **Responsible** for: sharing the **Proper** message, IN God's Context. Our message, is to be **True & Genuine**; *as having come straight from **The Original-Source – Jesus Christ***).

* **What I'm saying is**: We are **NOT** dealers of **Fake News!**

-- In our world, **the media** plays a big role, in how we see life.

The problem with social media, it can be **biased** towards the beliefs, of the person who writes the message. And, if that writer does not have the truth right, people can be deceived. If that is the case, then whatever someone is taking in, might turn out to just be: "**Fake news, or Bad news**".....

-- Meanwhile, **God's Word** offers **NO** Fake or Bad news, it only offers "**Good News**"...(The Good News of Jesus Christ, and salvation that only comes thru Him!) That is **The Message**, that we are **Entrusted with!**

> The 2nd Question & Thought, today - is this:

2) **Witnessing must BE, in our Daily Playbook....** How does being "**Entrusted with**" God's Gospel, **PLAYOUT** in our Daily lives?

- 1 Thess. 2:4, "**we **HAVE BEEN** Approved by God, to be Entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak.**"

- If you will take notice, both words are in the “**past-tense**” form (“**ed**”) – which means: God has Already “**Ordained**” & “**Commissioned**” this “**Entrustment**” on us, and to us!
- **Therefore**, our Entrustment is **Supposed to be** part of our “**Daily**” **Regiment** – *esp.* since God has “**Commanded**” us **TO BE His Witnesses!** (*just like: a Commander, who gives “Orders” to their troops.*) **Mark 16:15-16**, “*15 And then he told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. 16 Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe, will be condemned.”* NLT.....**There is our “Orders”, folks!**
- * We are “Entrusted” with God’s Gospel, to “**Disseminate**” it (*or, Spread & Disperse it*), **Every day!**.... our Spreading it is “Vital”, to the Spiritual/Eternal warfare of “**everyone**”.
- **The Message is NOT hard**..... **Romans 10:9**, “**If you openly declare** that Jesus is Lord, and **believe** in your heart that God raised him from the dead - you will be saved.” NLT
- **This word** (*a major part of God’s Gospel message*), **MUST “come TO us”**, and “**go out FROM us**” too - for the sake of everyone’s salvation...(we should **NEVER** hope, to **JUST** save ourselves!....) **As God’s Sons & Daughters**, we are **TO BE “Fruitful and Multiply”**. **So, I believe** this means: **1)** to

increase the number of people on the earth, and **2)** to increase the number of believers, in the world!....

- **Matthew 7:21** says, "*Not everyone who calls out to me, Lord Lord, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. **Only those who actually DO the will of my Father** in heaven, will enter.*" NLT

...The footnote on this passage says, "**True disciples bear the fruit of good works**".... It further says, "**A person is confirmed as a True Disciple, NOT BY prophecy, or exorcism, or by working miracles – BUT BY living a Transformed life, as made possible by God!**"

- **So**, we are TO BE **God's personal-messenger's, by letting our "Transformed-life" SHOW!... Once we turn to Jesus, and His Face shines upon us – our life will Glow, like never before!....** (When people SEE Jesus **IN US** - is when they can experience God's Good, Transformative, life too.)

-- **How do we "Disseminate The Gospel – or, let our Transformed-life show? **FIRST**: by NOT being "Ashamed of The Gospel of Jesus Christ".....** (We cannot BE real Witnesses of/for Jesus, if we are Ashamed (**embarrassed**) of Him, or His Word. *Shame makes us hide from others!*)

...We can also Disseminate His Word, thru: "**Casual Conversations**" – "**Preaching & Teaching**" – "**Writing**

a book (or, other literature)" - ***"Mentoring someone"*** -
"Showing love & care to people" - ***"Etc."***.

* Somewhere in that **Dissemination** thought - I hear a, "**Well Done, My Good & Faithful Servant**"....(**or**, **"maybe Not!"**)
- **depending on IF** we **DO the will of God, or NOT!**)

-- The Thessalonians that Paul wrote to, **WERE FAITHFUL** - to **Disseminate** God's Message to their surrounding communities... **1 Thessalonians 1:7-8**, **"7 And so you became a model to all the believers, in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 The Lord's message rang out from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia - your faith in God, has become known everywhere."** NIV / **Wow, I'd love for my faith, in disseminating the Gospel - to be well known by people EVERYWHERE!**

- We are ALL to "**Herald (Shout out)" The Good News**, of **Salvation thru Jesus** - just as the angels did, on the morning of Jesus' earthly birth!

- **Easter** is around the corner, and people & churches, will be **INVITING** people to their Sun-rise services, and luncheons!

- **YET**, a **Greater Easter** is on the horizon (**the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ, Who will descend from heaven - to take all His Followers Home to heaven**) - **BUT, will WE INVITE anyone**

to join us in the Kingdom of God, and to the Wedding Feast of The Lamb?

....Move to closing:

- **Acts 4:29-31**, "29 Lord, take note of the world's intimidations, intended to silence us. **Grant us** (Your servants), **the courageous confidence (boldness)**, **that we need, to go ahead and Proclaim Your Message**, 30 while You reach out Your Hand to heal people – **enabling us** to perform signs & wonders, through the Name of Your Holy Servant, Jesus. 31 They finished their prayer, and immediately the whole place, where they had gathered, began to shake! **All the disciples were Filled with The Holy Spirit, and they began speaking God's Message with courageous confidence (courageous boldness)**." The Voice

* **Beautiful people, CHAIN The Gospel** to your hand (*write it on the Walls of your Heart*), so that it **goes with you** everywhere, and to everyone!

....**Literally, PRAY** and **ASK God** to: Write His Word on the walls of your heart – and **SEND you** to the ripe harvest fields of this world – to those who haven't heard about God's Good News, in & Thru Jesus Christ!

Discovery questions:

- 1) If you know that Jesus died for the forgiveness of every human beings' sins, what are YOU doing with that knowledge? Are you a "Courier" (*Messenger*) for Jesus Christ, sharing His Gospel everywhere?
- 2) Are you will to risk YOUR life (*in this world*), to spread Jesus' Gospel? The Bible says (*John 15:13 NLT*), "There is no greater love, than to lay down one's life for one's friends!"
- 3) Do you know anyone who has run out of love for God - meaning, they seem to have slipped away from their faith? If you do know someone in this spiritual-condition, what are you doing about it?
- 4) In reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4, what did Paul mean when he said, "We were **bold in our God**, to speak to you, the gospel of God"?
- 5) If Paul were here today and said to YOU, "You are **Approved by God, to be Entrusted with the gospel**" – how would you respond back to him about that statement?
- 6) What do YOU think being "**Approved by God**" means?
- 7) What do YOU think being "**Entrusted with the gospel**" means?
- 8) 1 Thess. 2:4 said that we are to speak to gospel to others,

“NOT as pleasing to men, but to God - who tests our hearts”.

So, understanding this thought: How many Christ-believers (*pastors & study teachers included*), do you know that speak only words that human beings would be pleased with?

Meaning: of those people in your sphere of influence, who speak about Christianity – how many of them really speak the gospel truth (*the hard, toe-stomping, truth*)?

9) In Greek the word “Euangelion” means: **“Good News”** or **“Good Message”** – but WHY does God call the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **“The Good News”**?

10) The old quote says, *“God doesn’t call the qualified, He qualifies the called”* – So, how is it that God “Qualifies” His believers to speak for Him?

11) What are YOU doing with Mark 16:15?

12) How important is Romans 10:9 to YOUR dissemination of the Gospel to others? Seriously, taking a fresh look at Matthew 7:21 and footnotes, should tell you how important every believers’ evangelism efforts are!

13) Isaiah 52:7 makes a great claim to all believers – but what does that claim mean for True Christ-followers?

14) How (*or, in what ways*) can YOU be a True disciple of Jesus’, proclaiming the Gospel to others you meet?

- 15)** What is it that YOU really “Herald” (*or, talk about*), in your everyday conversations with other people? Do you talk mostly about: school, your job, sports, making money, outdoor activities, past travels, new adventures, business dealings, where the cool party is happening, politics, who you are happy or angry with, who you disagree with, things going on in your church, or maybe (*just maybe*): salvation that exists in & thru Jesus Christ? Truth? What YOU talk about the most, points to whether you are fulfilling Christ’s witnessing mandate, or not!
- 16)** Would YOU consider making Acts 4:29-31 your personal, daily, prayer? I mean, do you even want to speak for Christ? Remember, Jesus said (*in Mark 8:38 NASB*), “**Whoever is Ashamed (Embarrassed) of Me and My words, in this adulterous and sinful generation – the Son of Man will also be Ashamed of him/her, when He comes in the glory of His father with the holy angels!**”