

Stir Up the Gospel Pt. 5

II Peter 1:12-15 Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Remind—3x in these verses, then again 3:1-2 **I. What you have been given is precious and is under attack.** v. 12 talking about eternal life in eternal kingdom with THE KING **A. The gospel is sufficient. Stay focused there.** ¹²Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, specifically vv. 2-11, talking about common body of truth given; Look to God through Christ and focus on gospel given you! **B. The gospel given has been lived. Live it now!** and have been established in the truth which is present with you. Peter saying they HAVE lived it and must continue to work out implications of gospel in daily, ordinary life **I. Can you articulate the gospel?** Christ at center Jn. 14:6, Eph. 4:21 **2. Are you conscious of how that gospel lives/effects each moment of each day in your life?** **Tripp Quest for More—big kingdom lived in same place as little kingdom lives** **3. Can you identify other gospels that daily threaten the gospel calling for you to defend and proclaim the gospel to yourself and others?** (different priorities than the gospel); remember, false teaching only dangerous b/c you WANT it—feeding some need/desire—seems more attractive than gospel fullness causing you to drift away from living words you say you believe and follow similar teaching that **gives you what you value more than from God's provision through Christ to bring glory to Himself as He uses you to build His kingdom instead of yours** (check your loves—security, affirmation, fulfillment, peace, ME time, comfort, entertainment, family—if don't love God more, will drift; **Peter reinforcing gospel already given speaks of power of gospel**; Live gospel NOW! **II. Time is short.** vv. 13-14 ¹³ I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder, ¹⁴ knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. Death forces expectations, values to surface in ways that normal life often doesn't; as look at end of my life approaching, THIS is RIGHT thing to do as seek to fulfill calling to shepherd souls to the end; **summarize Peter's hope. What would result from heeding these reminders?** **stir you up—arouse from sleep, or waken courage, anger, or desire; by keeping gospel and virtuous life required to enter heaven in front of them, influence them to pay attention and hold the course;** vv. 5-11; not virtue alone, but virtue resulting from gospel—**Schreiner** though know gospel, in a sense, must relearn everyday p. 309; Christian knows there is more than whatever we see/experience here; MUST fulfill gospel calling all way to end even if you meet with “small success and great hardship” ¹⁵ **III. Maintain gospel-driven life for the rest of your life.** v. 15 ¹⁵ And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you will be able to call these things to mind. **what is implied/included in being able to “call these things to mind”?** **when you think of me/my calling/all energy/effort you see coming from me, want you to hear, “LIVE in line w gospel,” not only now, but ALL THE TIME in future;** will, emotions, goals, priorities all responding to facts of gospel, living looking ahead to One who promised, and who enables now to glorify Him; **stir up gospel** **What does it take to stir people?** Help see value NOW in way that emotions aroused, so act in line w value (what LIVING thing effect you? people, place, house, Susie w rocket launch on way home)—fascinates me about what fascinates others; think about movies, songs, etc. Moo records historian Simon Schama in book *Landscape and Memory* argues that our appreciation of landscape and nature is product as much of memory we bring to scene as it is of the scene itself; we associate certain places, foods, songs, etc. w things; but all our likes that we try to stir others up to NOT center **What is involved/included if you would stir people by the gospel?**

1. Be stirred yourself--take all God associations--First must isolate the essence of gospel 1. Made for relationship for communion, w peace, love providing foundation from which live and work 2. broken by finding life/love somewhere else; rebel from Creator 3. Salvation/deliverance ONLY possible from God we have defied 4. God DID impossible 5. We respond w repentance and faith—receive relationship AND provision for living for glory of God; **What feelings, emotions, identification do you have at the pieces of the gospel?** THIS what I gave you 2 years ago in 2-3 weeks as gave my gospel associations—ie. God's Word must richly dwell in us—normal to sit under preaching formally, informally--grilled cheese preacher Dr. J Vernon McGee—the Bible was treasure at core of preaching—so listen to it; Family Bible Reading Fellowship—on Family Radio—associated w Staten Island—stereo, grandparents house; open Bible, devotions family and personal, highlighted Bibles, markings—prayer all the time; prayer meeting (back room of darkened church vs. periods of history where prayer meetings full—6 am—if don't read, then associate w experiences good/bad; **what image are you giving of what we do here—don't lie, but if not working to identify gospel life purposes driving these times together, they will die—any other method you use also won't have gospel identity;** all points to gospel realities--Made for communion, for glory (God glory, stewardship, community, truth)—separated, but God working to redeem & use us on display working together to be conformed to image of His Son as we point each other toward Him & call others to Him; **word must dwell in you richly means NOT read from distance**—these are words of Peter, an apostle, sent/commissioned by Jesus Himself—sent/commissioned by Father—THIS is my beloved Son, listen to Him; these are words from living God! this is where we need to focus ourselves AND with one another; Bible full of God's reaching out to mankind in love and deliverance—ie. Passover instituted Ex. 13:3, 9, Deut. 7:18; don't just remember, but bring to mind in way that act in light of it (intellect, will, emotions, and behavior)—identify with those before—share in their salvation and make their events part of your own; Lord's Supper Lk. 22:19-20—Paul LIVED and GAVE this! I Cor. 11:23-26, 15:1-4.; Jude 5 is parallel to this passage; afraid would forget most basic truths; what does it mean to forget gospel—not in mental sense, but volitionally/practically; **what would show that I am not “remembering” the gospel as I live my daily life?** **1. Live condemned**--died for sins, but live consumed by guilt so insecure, trying to prove instead of confessing sins and

then getting up & doing next thing pleasing to God; **2. Live naturally**--know saved to be holy, but not concerned about being holy in daily life; not concerned about God's mission of proclaiming His glorious nature and work of salvation through you **3. Live independently**—w own resources, where comfortable--When word/prayer/fellowship of saints aren't source of life/maintenance--Jn. 14:26 takes Holy Spirit to bring truth to mind—but Word of God is what Spirit brings to mind; Lord's Supper helps remind; Moo notes that preaching needs to be intellectually stimulating, up-to-date, not stale with repeating same things, “but without constant reiteration of basic biblical truth about God's redemptive acts for us, it will produce Christians with no foundation and no hope for the future.” P. 67; **2. Be a conduit;** Recognize YOU are not the center, the goal—you are a conduit; not merely Peter as apostle to remind, but you also **were called to stir others with an eternal gospel** (Make Me a Channel, Lord); must care about people—your role in their life; show **zeal for Christ's glory** “in studying to propagate His truth for the good of souls.” P. 235 every Christian ought to leave behind them “the seeds of saving knowledge” Nisbet, p. 235 words and life **backing those words**; means that your study of God's Word, living the gospel struggle not merely for where YOU need, but must study people in light of gospel w regard to depths of individual differences so can apply the SAME gospel to depths of where their foundation out of line; if SAME gospel for all, must find bridge from what they hear, think they need, to where gospel is gospel to them; if they don't see their own foundation issues, won't shift, forcing you to give them another gospel (what they think they need)—therefore, must lovingly expose wrong foundations as show beauty of God and gospel—**includes wading through where others DON'T see it as kindness**; Powlison—gospel “Ministry ‘unbalances’ truth for the sake of relevance; theology ‘rebalances’ truth for the sake of comprehensiveness.” “The whole truth is as wide as human experience, as deep as the human heart, and as unfathomable as the God who weighs all things and intervenes in all things.” *Sanctification*, pp. 33-34 **True** gospel living involves remembering the gospel, clarifying it, building character as you think through its implications for daily life and seek to live it, and then giving and cultivating this same gospel in the lives of those God has placed in your life. **gospel grows in you, spreads to them; failure to do this by pulling back and stop wrestling/engaging self or with others thinking you/they will never change, shows no honor to God's eternal gospel and His great name** and limits what you see of Him; **what crosses your mind as you hear this?** so let the word dwell in you richly—Col. 3:16, it is living, imperishable I Pet 1:23-2:2; and in the face of the false teachers skepticism with this eternal word and the validity of those commissioned by Christ to give it, we have final look at **certainty of God's Word** (put Green here on this????)

Exodus 13:3, 9 Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the LORD brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten.”⁹ “And it shall serve as a sign to you on your hand, and as a reminder on your forehead, that the law of the LORD may be in your mouth; for with a powerful hand the LORD brought you out of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 7:18 you shall not be afraid of them; you shall well remember what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt:

Luke 22:19–20 And when He had taken *some* bread *and* given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”²⁰ And in the same way *He took* the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.

1 Corinthians 11:23–26 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;²³ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”²⁵ In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me.”²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 15:1–4 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

Ephesians 4:21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,