

## The Power of the Gospel

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by Wayne Goff

The apostle Paul sets forth the theme of the Roman epistle with the words: *"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation..."* (**Romans 1:16**). Did you hear that? The gospel is **God's power** to save! God has *many* powers and *much* power. Among all His powers, He chose **the gospel** as the power that saves men. It will do just that!

*"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it"* (**Isaiah 55:10-11**). God's Word will accomplish the purpose for which God sent it. What will it do?

### It Will Save The Good Heart

When it falls like seed on the *"noble and good heart"* (**Luke 8:15**), it will be kept and bear fruit with patience.

### It Will Be Lost Among The Worldly

When it falls on a heart so filled with the cares of this world that it has no time to study, learn and obey God's Word, then it will **not** produce fruit (**Luke 8:14**)! It won't immediately condemn the worldly. It won't destroy them in an instant. It will simply fail to produce any fruit. In time the soul will be lost.

### It Will Not Last In Some

Some will hear the gospel with joy, but the joy will fade away and in a moment of temptation, the soul will fall away, **Luke 8:13**.

### It Will Be Taken Away From The Hard-Hearted

It could have borne fruit, but the heart was not prepared to receive the truth, **Luke 8:12**. For whatever reason, the devil comes and takes away the Word that would have borne fruit. But the heart was too hard to receive it.

**Yes, the Word of God is powerful and it will do what God wants it to do. What is it doing to you?!**

A final word to **the obstinate heart**. Some among us do not like to hear words that *challenge* their faith. When preachers declare that God's way is the final way, they become upset and storm out of the building. That shows an unwillingness to consider the Word of God, and a **stubbornness** that rejects God Himself (read **John 12:48**)! While anyone has the *right* to storm out of the building to show their disagreement with the preacher's words, they do not have the right to hold their rebellious position with **impunity**! Be sure that God will have the final word, and to fail to seriously consider the truthfulness and validity of the message being preached is equal to spiritual suicide. *"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you..."* (**1 Samuel 15:23**).

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