

Sunday School
April 12, 2009

CALLED TO BE A TRUE WITNESS

Isa.-- 43:10-- *Ye are **my witnesses**, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.*

*John--15:27 And ye also shall **bear witness**, because ye have been with me from the beginning*
.
(Believers are called to be **witnesses**)

I. They are called to be true witnesses.

Prov. 14:25 *A **true witness delivereth souls**: but a **deceitful witness speaketh lies**.*

- A, A True witness speaks the truth
- B. A True witness Lives the truth.
- C. A True witness delivers souls.

2Cor.-- 4:2 *But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but **by manifestation of the truth** commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.*

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Manifestation:--(Expression, showing forth, demonstration, a sign)

Mat. 5:16 *Let your light **so shine** before men, that **they may see** your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

Mat. 7:28-29

Mark 1:22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had **authority**, and not as the scribes.

“Authority”

(Power, right, ability, influence, effectual, THE LAST WORD)

Eph. 2:10-- *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before **ordained** that we should walk in them.*

“Ordained”

(Designed, fitted, prepared, made ready, built, predestined, created)

❖ A True Witness

- **WE Are His**
- We are His **WORKMANSHIP**
- **Created in Christ Jesus unto good works**
- God hath before **ordained** that **we should walk in them.**

2Cor.-- 3:3 *Forasmuch as ye are **manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.***

“Manifestly”—

(Noticeably, clearly, obviously, strikingly, distinctly, patently)

❖ A True Witness

- Noticeable
- Clear
- Obvious
- Striking
- Distinct
- Patent

Titus-- 2:14 *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, **zealous of good works.***

❖ A True witness

- Redeemed
- Purified
- Working

II. An Effective witness speaks what he has seen and heard.

1John 1:3-- *That which we have **seen and heard** declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

Ac ts22:15-- *For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast **seen and heard**.*

2Pe 1:16-- *For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were **eyewitnesses of his majesty**.*

Acts 4:20-- *For we cannot but speak the things which we have **seen and heard**.*

Acts-- 10:39 *And **we are witnesses of all things** which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:*

III. A Wise witness can adapt the truth to his hearers without compromise.

“**Compromise**”--(conceding, bargaining, changing for the less)

Mark 4:33-- And with many such **parables** spake he the word unto them, as **they were able to hear it.**

John-- 21:15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.**

- V. 15 Feed My Lambs
- V. 16 Feed My Sheep
- V. 17 Feed My Sheep

To compromise is to lose, **to not compromise is a gain.**

1 Cor. -- 9:20 *And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might **gain** the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might **gain** them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might **gain** them that are without law.*

22 *To the weak became I as weak, that I might **gain** the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means **save some**.*

Reading: Acts 17:22-28

Acts 17:22 Then Paul stood...midst of Mars' hill... Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23...I passed...beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore **ye ignorantly worship**, him declare I unto you.

1John 2:13-- *I write...**fathers...young men... little children***

IV.A Prepared witness is called and sent by God

(Isa. 6:7-9; Ex.4:10; John15:27; Jer.1:5-8)

Ac 1:8 But **ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and **ye shall be witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

V. A Spiritual witness must have Spiritual vision

2Ki 6:17-- *And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And **the LORD opened the eyes** of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*

LORD, I pray thee, **open our eyes, that we may see. To witness**