

Ring Out The Message

- Responsibility To Proclaim
- Urgency of The Message
- Blessings of Obedience
- Cooperative Process of Salvation

The hymn '*Ring Out the Message*', which is also the title of the lesson, is an encouragement for Christians to proclaim the Gospel with boldness and urgency.

This lesson explores the Biblical foundation of this teaching, emphasizing **1)** responsibility entrusted to us, **2)** the urgency of the message, **3)** the blessings of obedience, and **4)** the cooperative process of salvation."

The first point in the lesson, is that Christians have the,

I. Responsibility To Proclaim

It's important to note,

A. Why We Must Proclaim

The Bible says,

- "as we were **ALLOWED of God**, to be **PUT in Trust with the gospel**, even so we **SPEAK; NOT as pleasing men, BUT God, which TRIETH our hearts.**" ([1Thess.2:4](#))

Even though imprisoned in Rome, and awaiting trial, Paul still viewed his situation as an opportunity to represent Christ boldly.

- He said, "I am an **AMBASSADOR in bonds**: that therein, I may **Speak Boldly**, as I ought to **SPEAK.**" ([Eph.6:20](#))
- "the things that thou hast **HEARD** of me among many witnesses, the **SAME commit thou to FAITHFUL men, who shall be able to TEACH Others** also." ([2Tim.2:2](#))
- "**PREACH the Word**; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³For the **TIME will come**, when they will **NOT endure sound doctrine**; but **AFTER their own lusts**, shall they **HEAP to themselves teachers**, having **ITCHING ears**; ⁴and they shall **Turn AWAY their ears from the truth**, and shall be **TURNED unto fables.**" ([2Tim.4:2-4](#))

As Paul did, Christians carry God's message of reconciliation, to the world. Believers have the responsibility to proclaim God's Truth, boldly and faithfully.

B. The Content of The Message

...is rooted in the Power of God's Word.

- Paul said, "For I am **NOT ashamed** of the **GOSPEL** of Christ: for it is the **POWER of God unto salvation** to every one that **BELIEVETH**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." ([Rom.1:16](#))
- "For the **WORD** of God is **QUICK**, and **POWERFUL**, and **SHARPER than any twoedged sword**, **PIERCING** even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a **DISCERNER** of the thoughts and intentions of the heart." ([Heb.4:12](#))

Spoken in the context of God's promises to Israel,

In [Isaiah 55:11](#), God provides a message of assurance, about the power and effectiveness of His Word.

- God said, "So shall My Word be, that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing, whereto I sent it." ([Isa.55:11](#))

The Word of God has the power to convict, transform, and save, fulfilling God's purpose.

Like Christ, Christians are a,

C. Light of the World

The Bible says,

- “Ye are the **LIGHT** of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth LIGHT unto all that are in the house. Let your **LIGHT** so shine before men, that they may **SEE your good works,** and **GLORIFY your Father which is in heaven.**” ([Matt.5:14-16](#))
- Jesus said, “I am the **LIGHT** of the world: he that **FOLLOWETH** Me, shall **NOT** walk in darkness, but shall have the **LIGHT of Life.**” ([Jn.8:12](#))
- “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye **LIGHT** in the Lord: WALK as children of LIGHT.” ([Eph.5:8](#))

As Christians, we reflect the light of Christ, in a dark world, pointing others to God, through our example.

Understanding our responsibility, we must also recognize the...

II. Urgency of The Message

...because life is brief, and the opportunity for salvation is Now.

The return of Jesus is imminent, and every moment matters.

And so, we should be...

A. “Redeeming the Time

- ...because the days are evil.” ([Eph.5:16](#))
- “Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, Redeeming the TIME.” ([Col.4:5](#))
- “**Teach** us to number our DAYS, that we may apply our hearts unto Wisdom.” ([Psa.90:12](#))
- “whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” ([Jas.4:14](#))

Time is a precious resource that must be used wisely, focusing on eternal matters, amidst the distractions of life.

There is an Urgency of The Message, because...

B. The Harvest is Ready

Jesus said,

- “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” ([Jn.4:35](#))
- “The harvest truly is plenteous (and great), but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.” ([Matt.9:37-38](#); [Lk.10:2](#))

Jesus encourages His followers, to see the urgency, of bringing people into God’s kingdom.

There is an Urgency of the Message, because...

C. Today is the Day of Salvation

In [2Cor.6:2](#), Paul quotes [Isa.49:8](#)...

- “(For He saith (that is, God saith), I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation, have I succoured thee: behold, **NOW** is the accepted time; behold, **NOW** is the day of salvation.)” (that’s [2Cor.6:2](#))
- “Wherefore (as the Holy Spirit saith, **To day if ye will hear His Voice, Harden NOT your hearts...**” ([Heb.3:7-8](#))
- “**Seek** ye the LORD, while He may be found, **Call** ye upon Him, while He is near.” ([Isa.55:6](#))

Salvation is available now, but the opportunity is fleeting;
So, we must act decisively, in sharing the gospel.

There is an Urgency of the Message, because...

D. The Lord is Coming

- “**WATCH** therefore: for ye know not, what hour your Lord doth **COME**.” ([Matt.24:42](#))
- “For yourselves know perfectly, that the day of the Lord so **COMETH**, as a thief in the night.” ([1Thess.5:2](#))
- “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.” ([2Cor.5:10](#))

Jesus calls believers to remain vigilant, always prepared to share His message, because there is a judgment coming.

The urgency of the Gospel compels us to act now, using every opportunity to share the gospel. The brevity of life, and the imminence of Christ’s return, remind us, that sharing the Gospel, is not only a privilege, but a pressing duty.

The title of the lesson is “Ring Out The Message”.

We’ve considered “Responsibility to Proclaim”, and “Urgency of the Message”;

Now let’s consider...

III. Blessings of Obedience

Obeying God’s Word in evangelism, brings spiritual blessings and eternal rewards, for both the messenger and the hearer.

- “**BLESSED** are they that **Keep His testimonies**, and that **Seek Him with the whole heart.**” ([Psa.119:2](#))
- “If ye be **WILLING** and **OBEDIENT**, ye shall eat the good of the land.” ([Isa.1:19](#))
- “He that hath My commandments, and **KEEPETH** them, he it is that **LOVETH** Me: and he that loveth Me, shall be **LOVED** of My Father, and I will **LOVE** him, and will manifest Myself to him.” ([Jn.14:21](#))

Blessings of Obedience, includes...

A. Joy in Heaven

- Jesus said, “joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.” ([Lk.15:7](#))
- “Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God, over one sinner that repenteth.” ([Lk.15:10](#))
- “The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love, He will joy over thee with singing.” ([Zephaniah 3:17](#))

Evangelism brings heavenly joy, as sinners turn to God.

Blessings of Obedience, includes...

B. Bearing Fruit

Jesus said,

- “Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples.” ([Jn.15:8](#))

The Bible says,

- “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” ([Gal.5:22-23](#))

Describing the life of a righteous person, who delights in, and meditates on God's law,

The Psalmist said,

- “And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth His fruit in His season; His leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever He doeth, shall prosper.” ([Psa.1:3](#))

Bearing fruit glorifies God, and confirms our discipleship (Jn.15:8).

Obedience to God's Word brings tangible and spiritual blessings, both now and in eternity.

When we “Ring Out The Message”, we need to consider,

IV. The Cooperative Process of Salvation

...Which includes, blending God's divine grace, mercy, the blood of Christ, and His Word, with man's responsibility of faith, and obedience.

Each part must harmonize, for salvation to be realized.

Some proclaim they want to be saved,

1. like the THIEF on the cross,
but they fail to recognize the thief was NOT under the law of Christ, as we are today ([Heb.8:13](#); [Rom.7:4](#)).
 - “For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.
¹⁷ For a testament is of force after men are dead:
otherwise it is of no strength at all, while the testator liveth.” ([Heb.9:16-17](#))
2. Still some want to be saved, by FAITH only
failing to recognize, that the Bible says,
 - “...**NOT** by faith only” ([Jas.2:24](#))
 - “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the **devils** also believe, and **tremble.**” ([Jas.2:19](#))
3. and others, want to be saved, by GRACE alone,
failing to recognize the different roles between God, and man's responsibility to His Word.

Notice with me,

A. God's Role In Salvation

The Bible says we are indeed,

1. Saved by Grace

- “For by **GRACE** are ye **SAVED** through faith; and that **NOT of yourselves**: it is the **GIFT of God.**” ([Eph.2:8](#))

Salvation is a gift of God's grace, not earned by works, but given freely to those who obey His teachings.

- “we believe that through the **GRACE** of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be **SAVED**, even as they.” ([Acts 15:11](#))

Grace extends to all through Jesus, offering salvation to Jew and Gentile alike.

The Bible says, we are,

2. Saved by Mercy

- “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to **His MERCY** He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit.” ([Titus 3:5](#))

God's mercy provides salvation, by spiritual washing (which is baptism), and renewal through the teachings, revealed by the Holy Spirit.

The Bible says, we are,

3. Saved by the blood of Christ

- “In Whom we have redemption through **His BLOOD**, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of **His GRACE.**” ([Eph.1:7](#))

The blood of Christ redeems believers, granting forgiveness and reconciliation with God.

- “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not **REDEEMED** with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation (or conduct), received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious **BLOOD of Christ**, as of a lamb, without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained, before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.” ([1Pet.1:18-20](#))

The sacrificial death of Jesus, was God's eternal plan for redemption of mankind.

The Bible says, we are,

4. Saved by God's Word

- Paul said, “For I am **NOT** ashamed of the **GOSPEL** of Christ: for it is the power of God unto **SALVATION**, to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” ([Rom.1:16](#))
- “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **GOSPEL** which I preached unto you, which also ye have **RECEIVED**, and wherein ye stand; ² by which also ye are **SAVED**, **IF ye KEEP** in memory what I preached unto you, **UNLESS ye have believed in vain.**” ([1Cor.15:1-2](#))
- James said, “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **RECEIVE** with meekness the **Engrafted WORD**, which is able to **SAVE your souls.**” ([Jas.1:21](#))

So, how do we,

B. Harmonize God's Plan of Salvation?

God's instructions must be followed in their entirety, without separation, subtraction or addition.

- "The **SUM** of Thy Word is **TRUTH**;" ([Psa.119:160a](#) ASV)
- Paul said, "For I have **NOT** shunned to **DECLARE** unto you, **ALL** the **COUNSEL** of God." ([Acts 20:27](#))
- "**Add** thou **NOT** unto His Words, Lest He **REPROVE** thee, and thou be found a LIAR." ([Prov.30:6](#))

When we **DO** add or take away, we teach **ANOTHER** gospel, which is **ACCURSED** behavior (read [Gal.1:6-9](#)).

Speaking concerning the subject of marriage, Jesus said,

- "What therefore God hath **JOINED Together**, let not man put asunder (or separate)." ([Mk.10:9](#))

Concerning any Biblical subject (including God's Plan of Salvation), we want to be sure, we carefully consider

- all of God's revelation on that subject ([Psa.119:160](#); [Acts 20:27](#)),
- and be careful we don't Take Away (that is, Un-Join) , or Add ([Rev.22:18-19](#))

The Cooperative Process of Salvation, includes God's role, but it also includes man's responsibility in response to God's Word.

Peter spoke of that responsibility in [Acts 2:40](#) when he said,

- "Save yourselves from this untoward generation."

Regarding man's responsibility in his own salvation, notice that God has JOINED TOGETHER,

1. **Faith AND Baptism**

- "He that believeth **AND** is baptized shall be **SAVED**; but he that believeth **NOT** shall be damned." ([Mk.16:16](#))

Belief and baptism are inseparable steps, in God's plan of salvation.

Regarding man's responsibility in his own salvation, notice that God has JOINED TOGETHER,

2. **Repentance AND Baptism**

Peter said, "Repent, **AND** be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission (or forgiveness) of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." ([Acts 2:38](#))

Repentance and baptism work together, to grant forgiveness and the free gift of Salvation, revealed by the Holy Spirit, through God's Eternal Word.

Regarding man's responsibility in his own salvation, notice that God has JOINED TOGETHER,

3. **Confession AND Baptism**

- "the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be **BAPTIZED**?
³⁷ And Philip said, **IF** thou **BELIEVEST** with all thine heart, thou mayest.
And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ IS the Son of God**." ([Acts 8:36-37](#))

Hearing ([Rom.10:17](#)), Believing ([Heb.11:6](#)), Repentance ([Lk.13:3](#)), and Confession of faith ([Acts 17:30](#)), followed by being **Baptised** INTO Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-5](#)), Completes man's initial response to God's plan.

...then he\she must **ENDURE** until the End ([Matt.24:13](#)), or Remain faithful ([Rev.2:10](#)).

All of this is made possible, **BECAUSE** of...
God's Grace, God's Mercy, the Blood of Christ, and God's Powerful Word.

V. IN-CLOSING

This lesson challenges us to boldly "***Ring Out The Message***" with urgency, joy, and clarity, always pointing to God's plan of salvation.

The harmony of these necessary elements, calls for a wholehearted commitment to God's will. As messengers of this Truth, we must "***Ring Out The Message***" to all who will hear.

As we go forth this week, let us **COMMIT** to sharing the Good News.

Who in your life (and mine) needs to hear the Good News this week?

TAKE action to share the Gospel, with someone in need!

PRAY for opportunities to speak boldly, **LIVE** out your faith as a light to the world, and **INVITE** someone to learn about the hope we have IN Christ.

The lesson is yours!

If you have a spiritual need,
The Lord invites, and we await to assist,
Come without delay, while together we stand and sing.