

"WE PERSUADE MEN"

2Cor 5:9-11

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Definition of persuade: (Vines) "...signifies to apply persuasion, to prevail upon or win over, to persuade, bringing about a change of mind by the influence of reason or moral considerations..."
- B. Only persuaded men change and God only persuades by the Gospel 1Cor 1:18-21. It is not a direct operation of the H.S., experience, feelings, etc
- C. Why did Paul persuade men?
 1. To be well pleasing to God v.9
 2. To prepare self and others for the judgment v.10
 3. Out of fear (respect) for the Lord v 11
- D. Consider with me now four questions in regard to our persuading men

DISCUSSION:

I. ABOUT WHAT DO MEN NEED TO BE PERSUADED?

- A. Their sins Jhn 16:8
 1. Remember Nathan confronting of David 2Sam 12:7
 2. Remember the Pentecostians in Acts 2:36
 3. A sense of sin (guilt) is essential to repentance
 4. People fail to see sin as sin anymore (see article "**Stuff About Things**" "Plain Talk Vol 1 #4-p 8)
- B. Their Saviour
 1. The remedy for sin Matt 1:21
 2. Those who are persuaded will believe Acts 28:23
 3. Men must be persuaded or else Jhn 8:24
- C. Their accountability to God
 1. Note v 10 "all appear before judgment seat"
 2. Note also Rom 14:12; Acts 17:30,31

II. WHO IS TO DO THE PERSUADING OF MEN?

- A. Those that have been taught Matt 28:18-20
 1. The apostles persuaded men at Jesus' teaching
 2. Must observe all they were commanded
- B. Faithful men 2Tim 2:2
 1. Only persuaded people can persuade others
 2. Those who are persuaded of points noted in regard to "what" desire for others to be persuaded

III. HOW ARE MEN TO BE PERSUADED BY OTHER MEN

- A. With the word of God
 1. Note: in story of Rich man & Lazarus Lk 16:27-31
 - a. Were to hear (God's messengers) prophets
 - b. Not persuaded by miraculous occurrence
 2. Gospel is God's power to save Rom 1:16

3. "Word of reconciliation" 2Cor 5:19

- a. Not persuaded by gimmicks, food, fun, frolic or appeal to the carnal nature
 - b. It takes the word of God to persuade
- B. Must persuade with a sense of urgency Jhn 9:4
 - C. With a spirit of boldness Eph 6:20; Acts 4:19 Not apologetic, etc.
 - D. With love and genuine concern Eph 4:15
 - E. With longsuffering 2Tim 4:2

IV. WHEN ARE MEN TO BE PERSUADED?

- A. Now is the time! 2Cor 6:2
- B. "As we have opportunity" Gal 6:10 (literally "while we can")
- C. Most of us intend, plan and prepare while opportunities pass and sinners die
- D. Right now, today is the time to become involved in this great work of persuading men?

CONCLUSION:

- A. Have you been persuaded that you are a sinner? That you have a Saviour? and that you are accountable to Him for your sins?
- B. If you have been putting off your obedience to Jesus Christ then you have not been fully persuaded See Acts 26:28,29
- C. If at one time you were persuaded and have fallen by the wayside you need to be persuaded again to serve the Lord
- D. Remember, the Word of God is the only thing that will truly persuade men.