**Acts 5 – The Foolishness of Preaching**

Acts 5: 42 – and every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ

1 Cor. 1:18 – for the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Cor. 1:21 – for since in the wisdom of God the world through wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe

**Peter’s preaching to the council – Acts 5:29 – 32**

1. Resistance to apostolic preaching

Acts 5:28 – we gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.

1. The council proudly resisted the preaching of Jesus Christ
2. The council refused to admit their part in the death of Jesus Christ
3. The council refused to speak the name of Jesus

Acts 5: 33 – when they heard this they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them

 They were cut to the quick – they rejected the preaching with anger & rage

Acts 7:54 – now when they heard this they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth

Acts 5:40 - after calling the apostles in , they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them – 4:18

2. Peter’s sermon to the council – Acts 5: 29 -32

 a. We must obey God not men

 b. You put Jesus to death on the cross – God raised Him from the dead

 c. Jesus Christ is exalted by God as Prince & Savior to grant repentance and

 forgiveness of sins to Israel

 d. We are witnesses of His death & resurrection

 e. The Holy Spirit is witness also & God gives the Spirit to those who obey

 Him

3. The obedience to preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ

Acts 5: 42 – and every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ

2 Tim. 2:2 – preach the word: be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

**The spread of the gospel through apostolic preaching**

1. People continued to be saved through preaching of the gospel – Acts 6:7
2. Preaching was powerful & could not be silenced – Acts 6:9 -15 – Stephen
3. God’s people preached the gospel as they were scattered by persecution – Act 8:4 – 5 – Phillip preaching
4. The people gave attention to his preaching – Acts 8:6
5. Many people believed in the Lord Jesus because of Phillip’s preaching – Acts 8: 12
6. The apostles were preaching in Samaria with great results – Acts 8: 25
7. Phillip preached the gospel to the Eunuch from Ethiopia – Acts 8:35
8. Phillip preached in many places in Samaria – Acts 8:40

**How to benefit from preaching**

1. God blesses the preaching of the gospel
2. When the gospel is preached the Holy Spirit convicts the mind & conscience of sin

 Acts 2: 37 – when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do?

 1 Thess. 1:13 – when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe

 1 Cor. 1:21 – for since in the wisdom of God the world through wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe

1. When the gospel is preached some hear & repent & believe
2. When the gospel is preached some refuse to repent & believe
3. Preaching is based on the word of God for teaching & instruction
4. Practical ways to hear God’s word for spiritual growth
5. Make preparation when you come to preaching

 James 1: 21 – putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls

1. Don’t not ignore what God is saying to you in preaching

 Ps. 96:6 – 7 – Come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our God our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah

1. Pay attention to your emotions & thoughts in preaching

 Matt. 11:15 – He who has ears to hear, let him hear

1. Be prepared to obey what you hear preached from God’s word

 Acts 10:33 – Now then we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord

1. Listen to the preaching as it is the word from God for you

 Eccl. 5: 1-2 – Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know they are doing evil. Do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth, therefore let your words be few.

1. Prove that you have heard the word preached by living by what is preached

 James 1:22 – but prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves

 Matt. 7: 24 – therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.