

# “I Am Not Ashamed”

Text: Ro.1:16-17

## Introduction

Ro.1:16–17 - “16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

There are 4 words given by Paul that are critical to understanding the gospel.

And I want to share them with you today. These words are:

*1) Power, 2) Salvation, 3) Believe, and 4) Righteousness.*

## **1. THE FIRST WORD IS “POWER”**

v.16 - “For I am *not ashamed* of the gospel of Christ, for it is the *power* of God...”

1 Cor.1:18 – “For the message 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.1:23–24 – “23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a *stumbling block* and to the Greeks *foolishness*, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the *power* of God and the wisdom of God.”

The BIBLE everywhere testifies to God’s power:

- Glorious power Ex.15:6
- Irresistible power Deut.32:39
- Unsearchable power Job 5:9
- Mighty power Job 9:4
- Great power Ps.79:11
- Incomparable power Ps.89:8
- Strong power Ps.89:13
- Everlasting power Is.26:4
- Effectual Power Is.43:13
- Sovereign power Rom.9:21

## II. THE SECOND WORD IS “SALVATION”

v.16 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the *power* of God to *salvation*

Ro.3:23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Ro.6:23, “For the wages of sin is death...”

Rev.21:8, “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Ro.10:10, “For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto *salvation*.”

Heb.2:3 says to you, “how shall (you) escape if (you) neglect so great a *salvation*...”

## III. THE THIRD WORD IS “BELIEVES”

v.16 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the *power* of God to *salvation* for everyone who *believes*, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Eph.2:8–9 to those who *believe*. “8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Jn.3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Acts 16:31, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved...”

## IV. THE FOURTH WORD IS “RIGHTEOUSNESS”

v.17 - “For in it the *righteousness* of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

Ro.3:21–24 - “21 But now the *righteousness* of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the

*righteousness* of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.”

Phil.3:8–9 - “8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having my own *righteousness*, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the *righteousness* which is from God by faith”

### **Closing Comments**

Martin Luther’s youngest son, Dr. Paul Luther.

It reads: “In the year 1544, my dearest father, in the presence of us all, narrated the whole story of his journey to Rome. He acknowledged with great joy that in that city, through the Spirit of Jesus Christ, he had come to the knowledge of the truth of the everlasting gospel.

It happened this way. As he repeated his prayers on the Lateran staircase, the words of the Prophet Habakkuk came suddenly to his mind: “The just shall live by faith.” Thereupon he ceased his prayers, returned to Wittenberg, and took this as his chief foundation of all his doctrine.”