

Speaker: Ken Sherwin
Date: 18th May
Reading: 1 Corinthians 1v17-18
Subject: Paul's Commission to Corinth

Paul's reason for going was that Christ sent him. He had direct dealings with Christ on the Damascus Road (Acts 9). It was a life shattering moment when he realised he had been persecuting those who took the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The one who had been down here was up in heaven. The one given the cross was now enthroned in heaven. Paul called Him "Lord".

["Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"](#) (1 Tim 1:15)

["This same Jesus has been made both Lord and Christ"](#) (Acts 2:36)

Paul was nothing, he was a mere mortal. He was a servant of Jesus Christ. ["Go into all the world and preach the gospel, ..."](#) (Mark 16:15).

No greater authority than the gospel. It is the ["gospel of God"](#) (Rom 1:1). It is good news from heaven, life to the dead, hope to the hopeless. The gospel is a stand alone message. It doesn't need our arguments added to it. It is not devised by men. It is used to convict a sinner and bring to repentance.

There are results from the preaching of the cross – Acceptance or Rejection. Sins can be forgiven ["Kept by the power of God"](#) (1 Peter 1:4).

Salvation is a wonderful thing. We are saved now from the penalty of sin. We are saved daily from the power of sin. The message of the gospel has limitless inherent power. The gospel is a life changing message. ["power of God unto salvation"](#) (Rom 1:16).

["God now commandeth all men everywhere to repent"](#) (Acts 17:30)

["Jesus Christ and Him crucified"](#) (1 Cor 2:2). The crucifixion of the cross is a historical fact.

The superscription ["King of the Jews"](#) was written in three languages.
Hebrew – Jew – religious; Greek – all nations – cultural; Latin – Roman military – political.

He ["Came unto His own and His own received Him not"](#) (John 1:11). They cried, ["Away with Him, Crucify Him"](#) (John 19:15). The cross is the height of man's wickedness and hatred. ["The world was made by Him and the world knew Him not"](#) (John 1:10)

His death was not unexpected. ["Ye know after two days is the feast of the passover and the Son of man is betrayed"](#) (Matt 26:2). It did not just happen; it was continuously foretold by the Lord. The purpose of God was in it ["Delivered by determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God"](#)(Acts 2:23). God planned the event. ["He spared not His own son but delivered Him up for us all"](#) (Rom 8:32).

There is a risen Christ, one who died, was buried and rose again. ["God made to meet upon him the iniquity of us all"](#) (Isaiah 53:6). There is life for all who will believe. The Lord Jesus met heaven's claims. You cannot be indifferent to the preaching of the gospel. You must make a decision.

["If any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old things are passed away behold all things are become new"](#)(2 Cor 5:17).