

HOW TO OVERCOME HINDRANCES TO THE GOSPEL

Dr. Elmer Towns says, “The gospel has two aspects, a proposition and a person.” Towns refer to the proposition as the message, the good news, the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ as found in 1 Cor. 15:1-4. The person is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Rom 1:13-17

13 Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you **(but was hindered until now)**, that I might have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles. 14 ***I am a debtor*** both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. 15 So, as much as is in me, ***I am ready*** to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

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." NKJV

Paul gives us three “I am” statements to overcome hindrances to the Gospel:

1. I am a debtor
2. I am ready
3. I am not ashamed

Dr. Alva McClain provides us with this wonderful statement in his book, ***Romans: The Gospel of God's Grace***. “Hindrances are not always an evidence that our purposes are wrong. Too often we purpose to do something that we think is according to the divine will, and when we start to do it, a hindrance comes up (or two or three). Immediately, with unseemingly haste, we decide that this is not God's will for us, and so we abandon it. But our purpose may be exactly according to the divine will, only perhaps we are trying to carry it out at the wrong time, and the very hindrance that appears as an obstacle in our path may be a divine testing of our purpose, as well as the assurance that it will be carried out at God's appointed time.”

❖ **I am a debtor to give you the Gospel**

God had saved Paul
Paul wanted to see others saved
What about you?

❖ **I am ready to preach the Gospel**

God is ready.
Paul was ready

Are you ready?

❖ **I am not ashamed of the Gospel, 16-17**

Paul uses seven powerful words in these two verses:

1. Power
2. God
3. Salvation
4. Righteousness
5. Faith
6. Just
7. Life