

WHY ATTEND OUR GOSPEL MEETING?

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We are about to begin a week-long series of Bible lessons
- B. We have planned, prepared and announced this gospel meeting for several weeks now
- C. But why should we attend the gospel meeting

DISCUSSION:

I. FOR THE PREACHER

- A. Some say gospel meeting for the preacher
 - 1. We have invited Bob Hutto a faithful gospel preacher to work with us in this meeting
 - 2. Some of the burden of success rests on shoulders of the preacher, but he can't do it alone
- B. Support by your prayers
 - 1. Paul asked, "Brethren, pray for us" 1Thess 5:25
 - 2. Why? For the Lord's sake and the love of the Spirit Rom 15:30; 2Thess 3:1; Eph 6:19
 - 3. Prayers help the preaching of the gospel 2Cor 1:11
- C. Support by your presence Heb 10:25
 - 1. Attend to support & encourage preacher invited
 - 2. Praying for preacher, preaching of gospel & success of meeting without attending is pure hypocrisy
 - 3. Requests should be backed by deeds, why ask God for success and not work to make it a success
- D. Support by your gratitude
 - 1. Paul praised brethren remembering him 1Cor 11:2
 - 2. Saying "amen" to a preacher is encouraging

II. FOR THE VISITORS

- A. You need to attend meeting for the sake of the visitors
 - 1. Paul asked Corinth 1Cor 14:23
 - 2. What will visitors think if members are not present
 - 3. Can't meet and welcome visitors if not present
- B. Meeting an opportunity to let light shine Matt 5:14-16
 - 1. Not attending the meeting is hiding your light
 - 3. You encourage another to hear and obey gospel

III. FOR YOUR BRETHREN

- A. You should attend meeting to encourage your brethren
 - 1. Israel prepared for battle, by encouraging each other Jud 20:22
 - 2. We need to encourage one another for the spiritual battle we must face each day
 - 3. Paul spoke of the strength and comfort he would receive when with his brethren Rom 1:12

IV. FOR YOUR CHILDREN

- A. We need to attend the meeting for our children and

grandchildren

- 1. Remember second generation from Joshua? Jud 2:10
- 2. It is sad to see parents with seemingly no interest or regard for the spiritual welfare of children
 - a. Don't encourage them to read or study Bible
 - b. Don't encourage them to prepare Bible lessons.
 - c. Don't bring them to Bible classes
- B. Jesus warned about not offending or destroying the faith of a child Matt 18:6 - gospel meeting is a full week for your children to be fed from the Word of God

V. FOR YOURSELF

- A. You should attend the gospel meeting for yourself
 - 1. You are responsible for your salvation Acts 2:40
 - 2. Work out your own salvation Phil 2:12
 - 3. Take heed unto yourself and the doctrine 1Tim 4:16
- B. Preacher will do his part to build up and encourage you. Acts 11:22-24; Col 2:1-2; 1Thess 3:2
- C. But preacher can't build up, strengthen and encourage you, if you don't do your part and be here!

CONCLUSION:

- A. "Albert Einstein was invited to speak at a banquet held in his honor at Swarthmore College. Hundreds of people from all over the country crowded an auditorium to hear what he had to say. When it came time for him to speak, the greatest physicist walked to the lectern, solemnly looked around, and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am very sorry, but I have nothing to say." Then he sat down. The audience was in shock. A few seconds later, Einstein got up, walked back to the podium, and spoke again. "In case I have something to say, I will come back and say it." Six months later he wired the president of the college with the message: "Now I have something to say." Another dinner was held, and Einstein made his speech" (Point Man, Steve Farrar, pp. 11-12).
- B. You can be sure that the speaker we have invited will not come here with nothing to say.
- C. Brother Hutto will come to us fully prepared to deliver to us the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Lord of lords and King of kings.
- D. Are you ready to come to the feast?

adapted from a sermon by Wayne Greeson