

## Ring Out the Message; 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10

- I. Ring It Out
  - a. The Music Man
    - i. Originally a Broadway play that opened in 1958
    - ii. It was adapted for the movies and debuted in 1962
    - iii. The movie is about a con man who is trying to get the residents of River City, Iowa to start a boy's band (and purchase instruments and uniforms)
    - iv. In one scene, the whole city is lined up on the street waiting expectantly for the arrival of the Wells Fargo wagon
    - v. They are singing a song, The Wells Fargo Wagon, about all the good things it has brought and could be bringing
    - vi. They are 'ringing out' the good news about the Wells Fargo Wagon
    - vii. We 'ring out' a message that is so much better than the Wells Fargo Wagon
  - b. The phrase, "sounded forth" in the text translates, "ring out"
- II. True and Glad
  - a. "There's a message true and glad for the sinful and the sad"
  - b. The Gospel, to bring good news
    - i. We get the English word, evangelize, from this Greek word
    - ii. 1 Thessalonians 1:5-7 (ESV) <sup>5</sup> because our gospel came to you not only in word but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.
  - c. Good news is 'true and glad'
    - i. Ephesians 2:12 (ESV) <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
    - ii. Separation is hard
    - iii. When Bear was young, we were at Sea World in San Diego. He was playing at one of the parks and we were watching from a bench. Then he was gone!
    - iv. We spent what seemed like hours looking for him, but it was just a few minutes, but we even Got Shamu involved!
    - v. The shiny souvenirs from the nearby stand lured him away
    - vi. That feeling of fear and loss was overwhelming and, even if it was only for a few minutes, it is etched in my memory
    - vii. The Gospel overcomes those feelings of fear and loss
    - viii. We are no longer separated; we are no longer alienated
    - ix. That is good news!
  - d. "It will give them courage new, it will help them to be true"
- III. Tell the World

- a. "Tell the world of saving grace, make it known in every place"
- b. This is our calling; we have been entrusted with the message of salvation (the Gospel)
  - i. 2 Corinthians 5:18–19 (ESV) <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
  - ii. I realize that Paul is talking about himself and the group of evangelists traveling with him
  - iii. 1 Timothy 6:20–21 (ESV) <sup>20</sup> O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called "knowledge," <sup>21</sup> for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.
  - iv. 2 Timothy 2:1–2 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.
- c. We have been entrusted with the message of reconciliation
  - i. Our task is to share that message with EVERYONE
  - ii. Jesus told His Apostles to baptize and teach; we call it the great commission
  - iii. Matthew 28:19–20 (ESV) <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
  - iv. His Apostles have passed the Gospel to us with the same task
  - v. Romans 10:13–15 (ESV) <sup>13</sup> For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." <sup>14</sup> How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup> And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"
  - vi. We are the sent; each one of us
  - vii. We all preach differently
    - 1. Some as a profession (a calling) from a podium
    - 2. Some with their actions and words to all their neighbors
    - 3. I almost did not have a job after Sunset
      - a. I was prepared to apply with the Lubbock Police Department
      - b. I even said to myself, "I guess my podium will be my patrol car"
    - 4. We all preach differently, but we all preach

5. Even if we are not talking about God or living the Gospel, we are preaching, just not what God wants us to preach
  - d. "Help the needy ones to know Him from whom all blessings flow"
- IV. The Mighty Son
- a. "Till the sinful world be one for Jehovah's mighty son"
  - b. Christ is mighty!
    - i. The one who would crush Satan's head (Genesis 3)
    - ii. The Rock who followed Israel and provided them water (living) water (Exodus and 1 Corinthians 10)
    - iii. The one who took up His own life
    - iv. John 10:17–18 (ESV) <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."
    - v. Someone might think that Christ was weak, "like a lamb led to the slaughter"
    - vi. The remainder of that verse says, "He opened not His mouth"
    - vii. We often think that he was an unwitting participant, that after his arrest he had no control over what happened
    - viii. The absolute opposite is true
      1. He organized the garden scene, so He was arrested (all the while being able to call angels to His rescue)
      2. He said exactly what needed to be said to the Sanhedrin and to Pilate to ensure He would be crucified
    - ix. Psalm 110:1 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."
    - x. Acts 7:56 (ESV) <sup>56</sup> And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."
    - xi. Philippians 2:9–11 (ESV) <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
  - c. "Sin and doubt to sweep away till shall dawn the better day"
- V. Ring it Out
- a. "Ring out the news that makes men free, to all the lost of every nation, ring it out"
  - b. Sound forth (ring out) the message that is true and glad
  - c. Sound forth (ring out) the message to the world
  - d. Sound forth (ring out) the message of Jehovah's mighty Son!