Daily Devotional, November 13, 2020

"Preach the Gospel", (Mark 16:15, NKJV)

"Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

After His resurrection, and before His ascension, Jesus spoke these words to His disciples. This verse is a command to every believer in Jesus Christ. It is not exclusive to ministers and public preachers. The command is for you and I. Some folks want to keep their faith to themselves. Perhaps you are afraid of the reactions people may have to the truth of the gospel. Perhaps you have a misguided notion that faith is a private matter only. Was the work of the Lord and the early church "done in a corner?" (Acts 26:26). I think not. Behold another biblical injunction. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). So then, "go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Someone among you may be objecting, thinking that you will show your faith with your life. By all means do that, but don't neglect to use words at the first opportunity. If you will live like Christ, you must speak of Him more so. "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:14,17). Another one objects that the restrictions are such that there are few avenues to preach the gospel. Well, there are avenues. And Scripture speaks this way, saying, "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2). There are people all around us who are on the proverbial highway to hell. They are lost, and will not reach heaven, because they have not accepted the gospel and believed upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps God is calling you to reach out and offer hope and peace to a hurting soul today, even as someone once heeded our text and reached out to you. "Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature."