**Black Preacher Sermon.Com**

**There’s No Shame In My Game**

(Romans 1:16 KJV)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

T

here are certain texts of the Bible that are so familiar to the Christian believers that they require almost no introduction. They are the texts we learned from our very first days in Sunday School. We know them, we love them, and their words are etched on our hearts. They are the “Amazing Texts” of the Bible. John 3:16 certainly falls into that category, as does Romans 8:28, and all six verses of the 23rd Psalm. In fact one might add to that Psalm 103:1 and Isaiah 53:6. You would certainly include Romans 3:23 and 6:23. But if you drew the list out long enough, you wouldn’t go very far until you came to our text—Romans 1:16. Without a doubt, it is one of the best-known and most-often repeated passages in the New Testament.

Our title is no exaggeration. This is the text that turned the world upside down and like a pocket inside out. It first changed a man name Saul, and that man after his Damascus road experience changed the world. So it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of this text in the history of western civilization.

The Apostle Paul like most first-class writers, after making his words of introduction, he immediately states his theme, “I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. This is it! This is what the book of Romans is all about. If you don’t grasp this passage, the rest of the book will make little common sense to you. It is the personification of Paul’s theology, it is the reason he wants to preach to Rome and more than that, it is the heart of evangelical theology. This is the text that launched the Protestant Reformation and it is this text that most clearly explains the difference between Evangelical Christianity and the Roman Catholic Church.

The Apostle makes the claim here that Jesus Christ has given him the responsibility and calling to be a preacher of God’s Gospel. If you remember the Gospel he preaches is not man’s gospel but God’s. Furthermore man did not give it to him, nor did he gain knowledge of it from anyone else. The Good News Paul preaches is the Gospel he received directly from our Lord and with it came the responsibility, accountability and liability to preach it and proclaim it. The Gospel is foolish to the lost world. For that reason the world is ashamed of the Gospel, the Cross, and ashamed of Jesus Christ.

1. **The Praise For The Gospel**

(Romans 1:16 KJV)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel*

Paul begins by making the amazing statement, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.” Now let’s think about his past for a minute. He had been imprisoned in Philippi, chased out of Thessalonica, smuggled out of Berea, ignored in Athens, laughed at in Corinth, stoned and left for dead in Lystra. Paul, how can you even dare to come to Rome with a record like that? He wants to share the gospel with Rome! The heart of the empire. Rome! City of philosophers and poets. Rome! Home to every conceivable idol. Rome! Seat of emperor-worship. Rome! Center of intellectual arrogance. Rome! City built on war. He has an interest in Rome—Greatest city in the world amongst many. He’s motivated to take the Gospel to Rome!