

Key No. III — the Word of God

The Centrality of the Word in the Ministry of the Apostles

In the Book of Acts the apostles trusted wholly in the Word of God, that through it all men might find faith and life. All their teaching and preaching had the Word of God as its very centre. In all their messages the Word of the LORD was present, and in all their sermons the Word held the place of highest honour.

- (1) Holy Peter, in his sermon on the day of Pentecost, brought forth the testimony of Joel and of David.
- (ii) The apostles proclaimed the Word of God in every place (Acts 4:8).
- (iii) Yea, they declared the Word even unto the Gentiles (Acts 22:17–34).

The Witness of the Word in the Book of Acts

In the Acts of the Apostles the Word of God is clearly beheld.

- (1) It is called *the word of exhortation* (Acts 15:13).
- (ii) It is *the word of salvation* (Acts 13:26).
- (iii) It is *the Word of the Lord* (Acts 13:48–49; 16:32).
- (iv) It is *the word of His grace* (Acts 14:3; 20:32).

The Positive Response of the People unto the Word

The Word of God wrought a blessed response in the hearts of men.

- (1) They heard the Word (Acts 4:4).
- (ii) They received the Word (Acts 2:41; 8:14; 11:1).
- (iii) They believed on the Word of God (Acts 4:29).
- (iv) They desired to hear the Word (Acts 13:7, 42, 44).
- (v) They received the Lord with readiness of heart (Acts 17:11).
- (vi) They gave themselves unto the Word (Acts 6:4).
- (vii) They searched and examined the Word (Acts 17:11).
- (viii) And by their witness the Word of the Lord was glorified (Acts 13:48).

The Manner in Which the Apostles Used the Word

In the Acts of the Apostles, the servants of God used the Word in divers manners.

- (1) They spake the Word of God with boldness (Acts 4:29, 31).
- (ii) They proclaimed the Word of God everywhere (Acts 8:4; 13:5, 14, 19; 14:25).
- (iii) They taught the Word (Acts 15:35; 18:11).
- (iv) They bear witness unto the Word (Acts 8:25).
- (v) They made decisions and established policies according to the Word (Acts 15:15).
- (vi) They commended the people unto the Word of God (Acts 20:32).

The Mighty Results Wrought by the Word

The Word of God brought forth great and powerful results.

(1) The Word wrought mightily (Acts 10:44).

(ii) The whole region heard the Word (Acts 19:10).

(iii) The Word of God increased (Acts 6:7).

(iv) The Word of God grew mightily and prevailed (Acts 19:20).