"NECESSITY IS LAID UPON ME"

(1 Corinthians 15:1-11)

INTRODUCTION: (1 Corinthians 9:16-17) "For if I preach the gospel,

I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me
if I do not preach the gospel ... "

"If I" - make it personal; me; myself; focus on self; this individual.

"Preach" - proclaim; say it out loud; public discourse; stand and deliver.

"The gospel" - good news; (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) "... the gospel ... you received ... you stand ... also you are saved ... that Christ died for our sins ... He was buried ... and that He rose again" (Titus 2:11) "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men."

"For necessity" - essential; obligatory; required; a must do.

"Is laid on me" - can't escape it; response required of me; personally accountable.

"Woe is me if" - a sorrowful condition; misery; in agony; grief.

"If I do not preach the gospel" - if it's not done by proclamation, it's by example.

(1 Corinthians 11:26) "... you proclaim the Lord's death ... "

(Matthew 5:13-16) "you are the salt" and "you are the light"

Someone said, "I'd rather see a sermon any day than hear one." So, "Walk the talk"

God has placed His Word into the hands of His people: me and us!

(Hebrews 1:1-2) "spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets ... by His Son"

(Jeremiah 20:9) "I was weary of holding it back, and I could not"

(Matthew 28:18-20) "Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ... Go ... teach ... "

(2 Timothy 2:2) "commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also"

Paul asks, (Romans 10:14) "how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"

The illustration of (Ezekiel 3:16-19) "I have made you a watchman"

- 1. A watchman relays a message to others. (2 Samuel 18:24-26) "cried out and told"
- 2. A watchman tells what is revealed. (Isaiah 21:6) "let him declare what he sees" We say, "Don't shoot the messenger." (Galatians 4:16) "Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?"
- 3. A watchman sometimes gives no warning. (Isaiah 56:10) (Ezekiel 3:18 and 33:8)
- 4. A watchman is not to be silent. (Isaiah 62:6; Psalm 107:2; Acts 20:31)
- 5. A watchman warns of impending danger. (Ezekiel 3:17) "give them a warning from Me"
- 6. A watchman's warning often goes unheeded. (Jeremiah 6:17 and Acts 26:28)