



**The Powerless Gospel**  
**Romans 1:16-17**

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Some in the modern church have tried to redefine the gospel. They have traded the power of the Gospel for the pursuit of sinfulness. By doing so, they have created a gospel that is powerless. The great problem of our day: we have compromised on God’s truth and attempted to redefine what God said.

Romans 1:16-17 are a clear summary of Paul’s theology. After stating the preeminence of the gospel, Paul spends the next eight chapters explaining this salvation that is by faith alone and in Christ alone.

**Main Thought...**

➔ **Through \_\_\_\_\_, we have access to God’s transforming power.**

1. The power of God is not found in the pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_ (1:18-32).
  - The problem of redefined \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The problem of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The problem of ‘ \_\_\_\_\_.’
2. The power of God is not found in the pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1-11, 3:10,23).
  - God does not grade on a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The power of God is found only in the \_\_\_\_\_ (1:16-17).
  - Power that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Faith that \_\_\_\_\_.

**Final Thoughts...**

➔ Am I living a life of \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus?

Karen Watson served as a Southern Baptist missionary to Iraq and was killed, along with three others by an unidentified attacker on March 15, 2004. Karen had written a letter to her pastors in the United States to be read upon her death. Below are excerpts from that letter:

Dear Pastor Phil and Pastor Roger,  
You should only be opening this letter in the event of my death. When God calls, there are no regrets. I tried to share my heart with you as much as possible, my heart for the Nations. I wasn’t called to a place. I was called to Him. To obey was my objective; to suffer was expected. His glory was my reward. His glory is my reward...

**The missionary heart:**

- Cares more than some think wise
- Risks more than some think safe
- Dreams more than some think practical
- Expects more than some think possible

I was called not to comfort or success but to obedience... There is no joy outside of knowing Jesus and serving Him. I love you two and my church family.

In His care, Salaam, Karen

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