

My Gospel Script

By Ted Rastatter

2 Corinthians 10:3–5

[3] For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. [4] For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. [5] We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ...

Christians at all times and in all places are engaged in spiritual warfare. The only weapon for this war is the Gospel – the true story of Jesus Christ. What is true about Jesus is now true about me because I am “in him” (Col. 3:3). Therefore, I must learn to preach the gospel to myself. This is not easy work. Strongholds are strong and get a hold on us that only the power of God can break. Take courage. The gospel is the power of God for all who believe (Rom. 1:16). Below is my personal script. Feel free to adapt it with your own stories and scripture. This is specified for me *** Notice when I answer “Who is God?” I don’t mention holiness. Of course God is Holy — but it is not God’s holiness, it’s his love and mercy that I have difficulty remembering when I’m condemning myself for my sin.

Who is God?

I do not need to wonder about this question. I must refuse to believe my own ideas about God and submit to what his word says about him.

- He is a good and loving Father
 - *For God so loved the world... (John 3:16)*
 - *Don't be deceived brothers and sisters! Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change (James 1:16-17).*
 - *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are (1 John 3:1)*
- He is fully revealed in His Son Jesus.
 - *He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power (Hebrews 1:3).*
 - *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...For from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace (John 1:14, 16)*
- He is the Wind and Breath of perfect comfort.
 - *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth....You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you (John 14:16-17).*
 - *...He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit” (John 20:22)*

Who am I?

Again, I do not need to wonder. I must look at what God’s word says about me, the whole truth about me!

- I am a creature, a part of God's creation, the only creation of God that is made in His image. The curse of sin means I am rebellious by nature.
 - *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them (Gen. 1:27).*
 - *They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one (Ps. 14:3).*

Where do I live?

I live in the world that is subjected to the curse of sin. The enemy holds power in this place. My sadness makes sense here.

- *Therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:23).*
- *We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12).*

What has God done?

- He has reclaimed authority
 - *“Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:14-15)*
 - *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me...” (Matthew 28:18)*
- He has broken the curse of sin
 - *“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us – for it is written “cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree” (Galatians 3:13)*
- He's canceled by debt
 - *“And you who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross (Colossians 2:14).*
- He triumphed over the enemy
 - *He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him” (Colossians 2:15).*
- He lives!
 - *“He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time... (1 Cor. 15:4-6)*
- He's adopted me
 - *God sent forth his Son.....so that we might receive adoption as sons (Gal. 4:5)*

What is my ultimate hope and what is God doing with me right now?

- I can know him forever
 - *This is eternal life that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent (John 17:3)*
 - *I go to prepare a place for you that I might bring you to myself*

- I'm Becoming like him
 - *What we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:2).*
- Jesus is making everything new again
 - *See I am making all things new (Rev. 21:5)*

What does that change about today?

- I can hope with full assurance that someday will not always be like today
- I can suffer and have joy at the same time.
 - *Sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*
 - *So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.*
- I do not need to fear condemnation from God
 - *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:1).*
- Since Christ has measure up I have nothing to prove
 - *For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us...(Rom. 8:3-4)*