



GOSPEL

FOUNDATIONS

The background is a dark, textured surface featuring a faint architectural grid. In the bottom left corner, there is a faint illustration of a compass and a pencil. On the right side, there is a faint wireframe drawing of a multi-story building. Various numbers and letters are scattered across the grid, including '160', '2500', '3000', '3160', '3400', '3450', 'K-5', and '7'.

WEEK 5

Gospel Loyalty & Benefits

6-Week Track

~~WEEK 1, 4/26: Jesus's Central Message~~

~~WEEK 2, 5/3: Core Gospel Passages & NT Gospel Speeches~~

~~WEEK 3, 5/24: Ten Events of the Gospel (Part 1)~~

~~WEEK 4, 5/31: Ten Events of the Gospel (Part 2)~~

WEEK 5, 6/7: Gospel Loyalty & Benefits

WEEK 6, 6/13: Fellowship Meal

The Gospel's Royal Framework

1. The basic Gospel message: Jesus is the Messiah (the Christ)
 - a. Acts 5:42; 8:4-5; 9:22; 17:2-3; 18:5; 18:28
2. King Jesus announces and embodies the good news of God's Kingdom. He's both the **primary herald** and **principal subject** of the message.
3. The Kingdom of God is Yahweh's reign on earth through Jesus the divine **AND** human king.

The Gospel in Ten Events

Jesus the Christ (King Jesus):

1. preexisted as God the Son,
2. was sent by the Father,
3. took on human flesh in fulfillment of God's promises to David,
4. died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,
5. was buried,
6. was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,
7. appeared to many witnesses,
8. is enthroned at the right hand of God as the ruling Christ,
9. has sent the Holy Spirit to his people to effect his rule,
10. and will come again as final judge to rule. ¹

¹ Bates, Matthew. The Gospel Precisely: Surprisingly Good News About Jesus Christ the King (Real Life Theology) (p. 23). (Function). Kindle Edition.



Concise Version of the 10 Events

Jesus is the saving king. He preexisted with God the Father. In accordance with God's promises, Jesus became human in the line of David, died for our sins, was buried, was resurrected on the third day, was seen, was installed as king at God's right hand, sent the Spirit, and will return to rule.¹

² Matthew Bates. The Gospel Precisely: Surprisingly Good News About Jesus Christ the King (Real Life Theology) (p. 13). (Function). Kindle Edition.

What Response Does the Gospel Require?

- Repent
- Believe the gospel
- Give loyalty to King Jesus
- Be baptized

REPENTANCE

Repent: Greek: μετανοέω / metanoeō

Not just a feeling of remorse over sins but an active change of heart, mind, and behavior. In relation to the gospel, it is turning our entire self **away** from sin and its loyalties and turning **toward** God and **loyal love** to him under Jesus's kingship.



FAITH

Believe (faith): Greek: πιστεύω / pisteuō

In response to the gospel, belief involves **believing** the message of the kingdom, especially that God raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 10:8-10), **trusting** in King Jesus and his provision for us under his rule, and giving our **loyalty** to him with our entire being. (Acts 17:22-34)



Repentance, Belief, and Loyalty

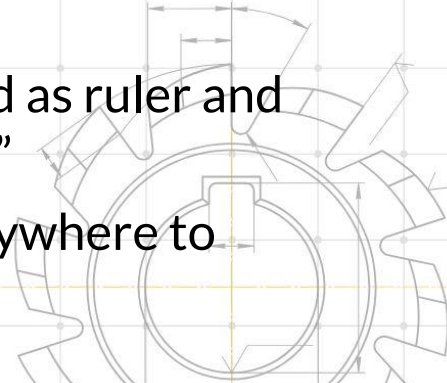
- Jesus proclaims the good news of the kingdom of God
 - Mark 1:14–15
- Jesus is the Messiah renewing Israel and humanity
- “Repent and believe” = “Repent and become loyal”
 - See Josephus, *The Life of Flavius Josephus*, 100.
- “Turn away from your present course of action and become loyal to me.”³

³ Bates, Matthew W.. *Salvation by Allegiance Alone: Rethinking Faith, Works, and the Gospel of Jesus the King* (pp. 22-23). (Function). Kindle Edition.



Repentance, Belief, and Loyalty

- Jesus declares that “**repentance for forgiveness of sins** will be proclaimed in his name to all the nations” (Lk 24:44–49).
- **GS1 (Acts 2:36–38):** “**Repent and be baptized**, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the **forgiveness of your sins**, and you will receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit.**”
- **GS1 (Acts 3:19–20):** “**repent and turn back**, so that **your sins may be wiped out**”
- **GS 3 (Acts 5:30–32):** “God exalted this man to his right hand as ruler and Savior, to give **repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.**”
- **GS 6 (Acts 17:30–31):** “God now commands all people everywhere to **repent**”



BAPTISM

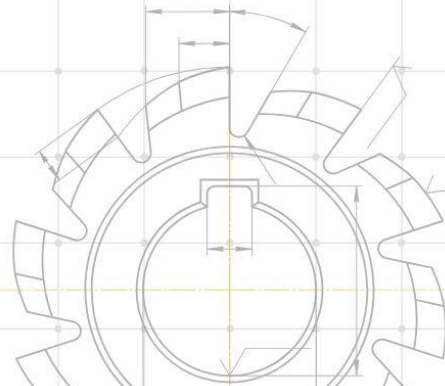
Be Baptized: Greek: βαπτίζω / baptizō

In relation to the gospel, to be baptized is to deliberately **identify** with Jesus' death, resurrection, and enthronement in his royal capacity as the Christ. It is the defining embodiment of loyalty to King Jesus and rite of initiation into his church/family/household of faith. Baptism is an **embodied loyalty oath** to King Jesus.



The Basis for Baptism

- **Jesus's imperative in Mt 28:18–20 is the basis for baptism as a rite of initiation into the Christian community.**
 - ¹⁸ Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.
¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
 - Go (*because Jesus has authority and in his authority*)
 - Make disciples of all nations
 - Baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
 - Teach them to observe what Jesus commanded
 - Remember Jesus is with you always

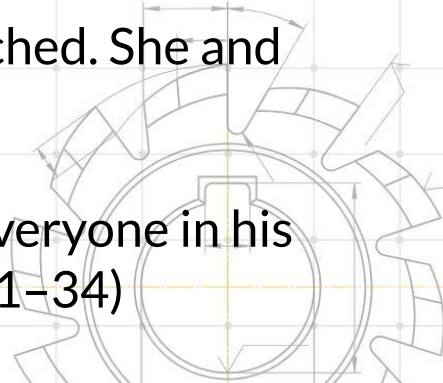


Baptisms in Acts

- On the day of Pentecost, those who accepted the Gospel Peter preached followed his admonition to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (GS1: Acts 2:36–42).
- Men and women, including Simon the sorcerer, were baptized when they believed Philip's proclamation of the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus the Christ (Acts 8:9–13).
- An Ethiopian high official believed the good news Philip told him about Jesus as he explained an Isaiah passage the official was pondering. The Ethiopian asked to be baptized, and Philip baptized him (Acts 8:26–38).

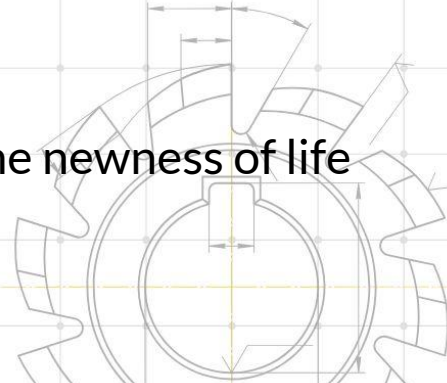
Baptisms in Acts (cont'd)

- Saul was baptized upon receiving his sight and being filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:17–19).
- Peter commanded that Cornelius and his household be baptized after the Holy Spirit came down on them upon hearing Peter's proclamation of the good news concerning Jesus the Christ (Acts 10:44-48).
- The Lord opened Lydia's heart to hear the gospel Paul preached. She and her household were baptized (Acts 16:14–15)
- Paul and Silas spoke the word of the Lord to the jailer and everyone in his house. The jailer and all his family were baptized (Acts 16:31–34)



Baptism as Identification With Christ

- Baptism is a deliberate act of identification with the Jesus' death, resurrection, and enthronement, signifying our freedom from sin and new life in the Christ (Romans 6:1–11).
 - “³...all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life” (vv. 3–4)
 - Baptized into King Jesus's death
 - Buried with him by baptism
 - Raised in the likeness of his resurrection to walk in the newness of life



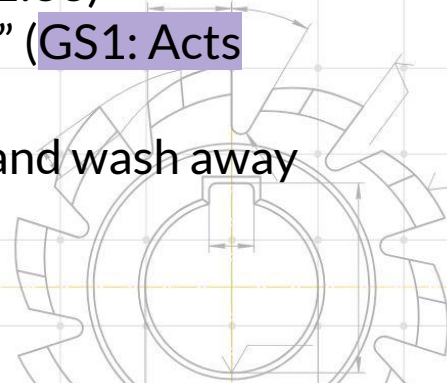
Baptism as an Embodied Pledge of Loyalty

- Baptism is the “pledge of a good conscience toward God” (1 Pt 3:21–22).
 - *“...the word “conscience” (suneidēsis) does not refer to the inner voice of right and wrong in this text. Rather, the word refers to the disposition of one’s loyalties, a usage that is also found in other contexts and Greek literature. Baptism, then, is not what produces salvation. It “saves” in that it reflects a heart decision: a pledge of loyalty to the risen Savior. In effect, baptism in New Testament theology is a loyalty oath, a public avowal of who is on the Lord’s side in the cosmic war between good and evil. But in addition to that, it is also a visceral reminder to the defeated fallen angels. Every baptism is a reiteration of their doom in the wake of the gospel and the kingdom of God.”⁴*

^[4] Michael S. Heiser, [*The Unseen Realm: Recovering the Supernatural Worldview of the Bible*](#), First Edition. (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2015), 338.

Embodied Loyalty to King Jesus

- **Yahweh's faithful love is the root and impetus.**
 - "We love because he first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19).
- **Calling on the name of the LORD is synonymous with worship and saving loyalty.**
 - "At that time people began to call on the name of the LORD" (Gen 4:26).
 - Abraham call on the name of the LORD (Gen 12:8; 13:4; 21:33)
 - "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (GS1: Acts 2:21).
 - "And now, why are you delaying? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name" (Acts 22:16).



Embodied Loyalty to King Jesus

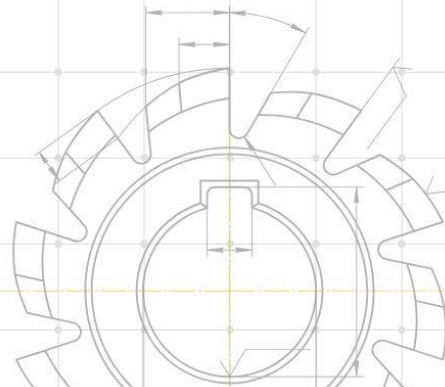
- **The Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5–7) is Jesus’s teaching we’re called to observe.**
 - Three Main Parts:
 - Opening descriptions of the the blessed way of life (Mt 5:3-16)
 - Main body describing the nature of love-driven relationships in God’s kingdom (Mt 5:17-7:12)
 - Closing invitation to choose a response (Mt 7:13-27)
 - This is primarily what Jesus is referring to in Mt 28:20 when he says, “teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.”



Embodied Loyalty to King Jesus

- **The Holy Spirit helps us enact loyalty to Jesus**

- He lives in us, makes his home in us ([Jn 14:17](#), [Rom 8:9-11](#), [1 Cor 3:16](#))
- He teaches us ([Jn 14:26](#)); He testifies to the Christ ([Jn 15:26](#))
- He leads and guides us into all truth ([Jn 16:13-15](#))
- He spreads God's love throughout our hearts ([Rom 5:5](#))
- He will bring our mortal bodies to life when Jesus returns ([Rom 8:11](#))
- He leads us and testifies that we are God's children ([Rom 8:12-17](#))
- He helps us pray ([Rom 8:26-27](#))
- He helps us understand what God has freely given us ([1 Cor 2:12-13](#))
- He washes, sanctifies, and justifies us ([1 Cor 6:11](#))
- He empowers us to serve others ([1 Cor 12:4-11](#))
- He's the down payment of our inheritance ([2 Cor 1:22](#); [5:5](#), [Eph 1:13-14](#))
- He helps us resist fleshly temptation and walk in the Spirit ([Gal 5:16-18](#))
- He produces fruit in us ([Gal 5:19-26](#))
- He regenerates and renews us ([Tit 3:4-7](#))



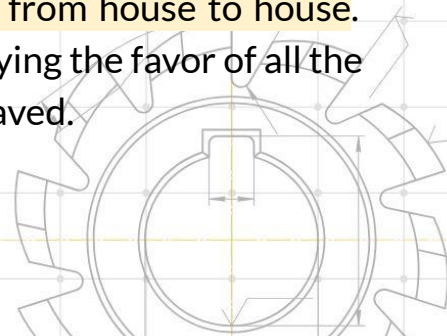
Embodied Loyalty to King Jesus

- **The Church community is essential for loyalty to King Jesus**

- Acts 2:41–47

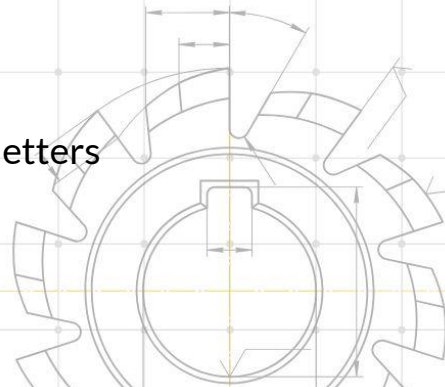
⁴¹ So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer.

⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. ⁴⁵ They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.



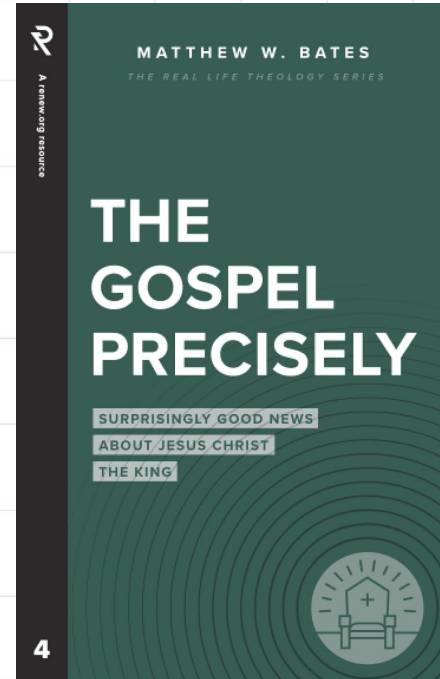
Embodied Loyalty to King Jesus

- **The Church community is essential for enacting loyalty to Jesus**
 - Additional characteristics of NT Church community:
 - Encouraging one another in the faith ([Heb 10:23-25](#))
 - Confessing our sins to one another and praying for one another ([Jas 5:16](#))
 - Rejoicing and mourning with one another ([Rom 12:15](#))
 - Loving one another deeply with honor and hospitality ([Jn 13:34-35](#); [Rom 12:10](#); [1 Pt 4:8-9](#))
 - Exercising and submitting to discipline within the community ([Mt 18:15-20](#); [1 Cor 5](#); [2 Tim 3:16-17](#); [2 Tim 4:2](#); [Heb 13:7](#))
 - Restoring one another when we fall into sin ([Gal 6:1](#))
 - Using our gifts to serve one another ([1 Pt 4:10](#))
 - All the “one anothers” in the words of Jesus and the New Testament letters



Gospel Benefits to Non-Christians

While the best benefits of the gospel are reserved for Jesus' disciples, those who reject him are aided during their earthly life too—although in the end, they are excluded from final salvation. Jesus announces that his gospel brings relief for the poor, oppressed, blind, and captives (Luke 4:16–21). Non-Christians are better off due to Jesus' kingship because they experience social and political good when they encounter authentic disciples. The hungry get fed. The poor are aided. The cold receive a blanket. When the church acknowledges Jesus' kingship—and it always does when the real church gathers—they create an alternative social and political order that benefits the marginalized.⁵

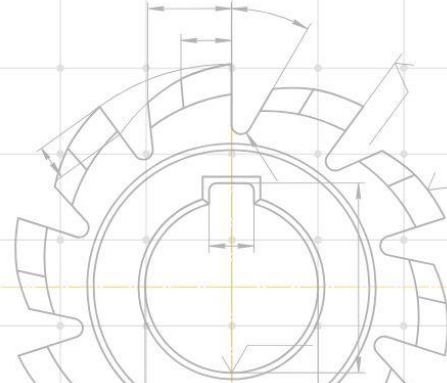


⁵ Bates, Matthew. The Gospel Precisely: Surprisingly Good News About Jesus Christ the King (Real Life Theology) (p. 47). (Function). Kindle Edition.

Four Gospel Benefits for Christians

- **Adoption Into God's Covenant Family**

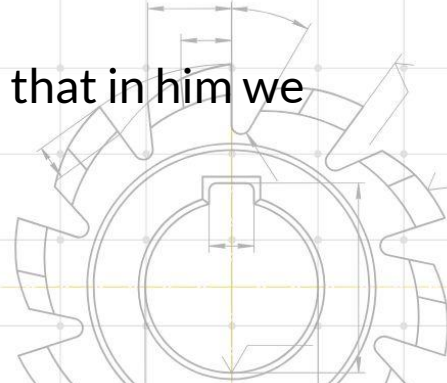
- "...he gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name" (Jn 1:12)
- "He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself" (Eph 1:5)
- "You are...members of God's household" (Eph 2:19)
- ..."so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Gal 4:5)



Four Gospel Benefits for Christians

- **Right-Standing With God**

- “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith” (Rom 1:17)
- “The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe” (Rom 3:22)
- “...be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God based on faith.” (Phil 3:9)
- “He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor 5:21).



Four Gospel Benefits for Christians

- **Holy Spirit Indwelling and Fruit**

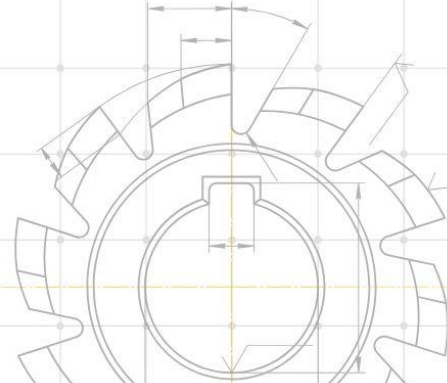
- “Don’t you yourselves know that you are God’s temple and that the Spirit of God lives in you?” (1 Cor 3:16).
- “In him you are also being built together for God’s dwelling in the Spirit” (Eph 2:22).
- “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth...you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.” (Jn 14:15–17)
- “...the Holy Spirit who lives in us” (2 Tim 1:14)
- “²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things” (Gal 5:22–23).



Four Gospel Benefits for Christians

- **Eternal Life in the New Creation**

- “...Glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,² since you gave him authority over all people,, so that he may give eternal life to everyone you have given him.³ This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent—Jesus Christ.” (Jn 17:1–3)
- “¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!” (2 Cor 5:17)



Four Gospel Benefits for Christians

- **Eternal Life in the New Creation (*cont'd*)**
 - “The LORD God planted a garden in Eden...the tree of life in the middle of the garden...” (Gen 2:8–9).
 - “...he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever...He drove the man out and stationed the cherubim and the flaming, whirling sword east of the garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.” (Gen 3:22–24)
 - “...a new heaven and a new earth...Then the one seated on the throne said, ‘Look, I am making everything new’” (Rev 21:1–5)
 - “The tree of life was on each side of the river, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, and there will no longer be any curse...they will reign forever and ever” (Rev 22:1–5).

THE END

