



What the Gospel Means

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Introduction

Two Issues:

Many who would call themselves Christians are unable to give a clear presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Failure to recognize the necessity and power of the gospel in our continued sanctification and maturation as followers of Jesus Christ in all areas of our lives.

What Does the Gospel Mean?

Greek Word: Euangelion (“gospel”) meaning “good news.”

Two Uses of the word in Scripture:

Broad Sense: To all aspects of the salvation and new life that Jesus gives His people.

Narrow Sense: Narrowly to refer to what Jesus did for us.

What does that mean?

In other words, sometimes the gospel refers broadly to Jesus’ work of justification and sanctification for and in His people, and sometimes it refers narrowly to Jesus’ work of justification.

“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” - Mark 1:1

“Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.” - Revelation 14:6-7

“Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.” - 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

“The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.” - 1 Timothy 11:15-16

The Results of the Gospel

The Gospel Brings the Kingdom

“And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.”

- Matthew 4:23

*“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” - **Matthew 24:24***

The Gospel Brings Hope

Paul refers in Colossians 1:23 to “the hope of the gospel.”

The gospel is the good news that there is hope for sinners, the worst of sinners – the hope of forgiveness, reconciliation, and holiness.

The Gospel Brings New Identity

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!” - **2 Corinthians 5:17***

“You have put on the new self which is being renewed after the image of its creator.”

- Colossians 3:15

The Gospel Brings Salvation

Why do we need saving?

*“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” - **Romans 3:23***

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

- Romans 6:23

God’s answer:

*“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” - **Romans 5:8***

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” - **Ephesians 2:8-9***

*“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” - **John 14:6***

*“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” - **Romans 10:9***

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” – Acts 4:12

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16