

What Is The Gospel?

John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Romans 1:16-17

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Introduction

1. What is the gospel? We know the doctrine of the gospel, the conditions of the gospel, but do we really know the gospel itself? Can the gospel be preached to the church?

I. The Gospel

- a. The Gospel is “Good News”
 - i. It is the message that Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again, and now is able to save all who trust and obey Him (1 Cor. 15:1–4).
- b. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
 - i. It was something which the Corinthians had **received**. By receiving the gospel they had obeyed the gospel! (Remember to receive something means it had to be shared with you hence the function of the Church).
 - ii. It was something in which the Corinthians **stood**! The gospel is not a one time act that save us, but is meant to keep where we need to be – pleasing to God.
 - iii. It was something which they were being **saved**. The only hope we have of salvation is in keeping the gospel. Obeying the gospel is taking action to STAY saved! It is a way of life.
 - iv. If we **hold fast** the word which was preached!

II. The Heart Of The Gospel

- a. “Of First Importance” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
 - i. The gospel is the most important message the Church is to proclaim! Christ died...He was buried...He rose again...He was seen.
- b. “According To The Scriptures”
 - i. The Gospel is not a new message; it was promised in the Old Testament.
- c. Romans 1:16-17
 - i. Why would we be tempted to be ashamed of the gospel?
 - ii. Paul was not ashamed and explains why...
 1. The origin of the Gospel: it is the Gospel of Christ (v16a)
 2. The operation of the Gospel: it is the power of God (16b)
 3. The outcome of the Gospel: it is the power of God unto salvation (v16c)
 4. The outreach of the Gospel: “to everyone that believes” (v16d-17)
- d. Christ Is God’s Unspeakable Gift (2 Corinthians 9:15)
 - i. 1 John 4:9-10 – The gift of love
 1. Because God is love, He must communicate—not only in words but in deeds. True love is never static or inactive.
 2. The greatest expression of God’s love is in the death of His Son (Romans 5:8).
 3. There Jesus Christ bore the punishment for sin and met the just demands of the holy Law. God reveals His love and makes it possible for men to be saved by faith and obedience to the gospel.

III. Christ, Christ, Christ

- a. Colossians 3:1-4
 - i. Christianity is Christ. We are to preach Christ (Acts 20:24; Acts 5:28; Colossians 3:1-4). He is truly everything (John 3:16)!
 - ii. Truly the death and resurrection of Jesus is good news! His death saved us from sin and condemnation! By it we learn about God’s love for us and how we are to love God in obedience!