

# “THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST”

## INTRODUCTION

- I The word “gospel” is found over a hundred times in the N. T., and often described as “the gospel of Christ.”
- II. In this lesson we shall study the gospel as set forth in the New Testament.

## DISCUSSION

### I. 1<sup>st</sup>, the MEANING OF THE GOSPEL.

A. The Greek word for gospel is euangelion, which simply means “glad tidings” or “good news.”

1. The Greek word for gospel is pronounced “evangelion,” meaning “a message.”
  - a. In the middle of this word in English are *a-n-g-e-l*, or “angel”, with the angel coming from the word angelos, meaning “messenger,” as are usually involved in some with messages from God.
  - b. From the word “evangelion” we also get the verb form which is translated “evangelists,” proclaimers of the gospel, or good news.
2. Thus, the meaning of the word “gospel”, is good news, or glad tidings, and is “good news from a foreign land, from God. Prov. 25:25

B. The BASIC text for our study is the great statement by the apostle Paul in Rom. 1:16-17, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”*

### II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, the FACTS OF THE GOSPEL.

A. Paul declared that the “gospel” he preached was based upon 3 basic truths, the **death, burial** and **resurrection** of Christ, the Son of God. 1 Cor. 15 :1-4 (Explain)

B. Then, there is the **doctrinal presentation** or revealing of these facts AS the “good news” relating to salvation, and their requirements. (1 Cor. 15:1-2); cf Gal. 1:6-12

### III. 3<sup>Rd</sup>, the SOURCE OF THE GOSPEL.

A. It is sometimes referred to as the gospel of GOD, in that it comes from God. Rom. 15:16

B. Then, in the same context it is called the gospel of CHRIST. v. 19

1. It is called the gospel of Christ, as He is, as the Word of God, the One who brought the gospel, and is the central figure IN the gospel.
2. It is to be called the gospel of the of the kingdom, and the gospel of grace, because it features the benefits OF the message.

### IV. 4<sup>th</sup>, the EFFECTS OF THE GOSPEL.

A. The gospel is effective in it’s “power” to SAVE from sin. Matt. 28:18-19; Mark 16:15-16

B. One special passage ON the power is Rom. 1:16-17, which we shall now analyze.

1. **1<sup>st</sup>**, We learn the obvious, **that** the “gospel” is described as “the” power of God.
  - a. The effect of the power is salvation, with “unto” (Gr. eis), in the direction of.
  - b. It is “the” (a specific word) power of God for this purpose, in contrast with the law of Moses as seen throughout the book of Romans. Rom. 3:20
2. **2<sup>nd</sup>**, We learn that the gospel is universal, in that it is for “everyone” that believeth —both to Jews and Gentiles.

- a. It is for the believers (specifically), in contrast with those who do not believe it's message. John 8:24; Mark 16:15-16
- b. It is not limited TO believers, but for believers who "obey." Rom. 1:5
- 3. **3<sup>rd</sup>**, We learn that "salvation" and "righteousness" are used interchangeably, as salvation is the STATE of righteousness or forgiveness. Rom. 10:3-4
- 4. **4<sup>th</sup>**, The word "for" in verse 17 is from the Greek word *gar*, which simply means that what has JUST been said is about to be explained (meaning that the saving gospel is that which is "revealed," or made known. (1 Cor. 15:1-4)
- 5. **5<sup>th</sup>**, The expression "from faith to faith" describes the GOSPEL (the first "faith") is that which **creates** "faith" in the hearer, making HIM an obedient believer. Rom. 10:17
  - a. Thayer (p. 513) states that the first "faith" in this passage is used **objectively**, referring to the substance of faith, or "what is believed," with the second "faith" in the passage being **subjective**, referring to "what is believed."
  - b. Vine (p. 222) agrees, stating that the first faith is "what is believed, the contents of belief, **the faith.**"
- 6. **6<sup>th</sup>**. We see that the first "faith" IS that which 'revealed", being the **gospel**, which is CALLED "the faith" many times in the New Testament. (Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8; 3:12' 4:4, 13; Col. 2:7, 12)
  - a. This is that the "faith" that is **revealed** or **delivered** or **came** unto man. 1 Cor. 15:1, 3; Jude 3; Gal. 3:23
  - b. The term, "the faith" is the gospel. Gal. 1:11
- 7. **7<sup>th</sup>**, We learn that "the faith" which was revealed AS "the faith of Christ" is **NOT** referring to the individuals who HEAR the gospel, for HE did not have nor did He NEED **that** kind of faith, for He IS the Word of God, and the Author of hearing faith.
  - a. Saving faith depends upon the "substance" and "evidence" of truth. Heb. 11:1; Acts 2:36
  - b. Christ **IS** the "substance" (Heb. 1:3) of our faith, and **IS** the "evidence" OF the gospel to hearers.
- 8. **8<sup>th</sup>**, We learn that the gospel really IS "good news" for lost thirsty souls, bringing salvation from sin. Prov. 25:25; Rom. 10:15-17

## **V. 5<sup>th</sup>, and finally, we see the EXTENT OF THE GOSPEL.**

A. It will be available to "everyone" as there ARE Jews and Gentiles TO believe.

B. This confirmed by Matthew and Mark, till the end of the world. Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16

### **CONCLUSION**

I. All are lost without the gospel.

A. Does this include YOU?

B. You need not remain lost, but become obedient TO the gospel. Rom. 6:17

II. The invitation is extended to you, as we stand together and sing.

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