

**Topic:** The Gospel preached by Jesus

**Date:** February 26, 2020

**Introduction:** It is generally taught that Jesus proclaimed a gospel that was no different from that given to the Apostle Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles, but is this really true? This study will examine aspects of the gospel account according to Matthew, in comparison to the gospel which was delivered to Paul. The word “gospel” means “a good message” and first occurs in Matthew 4:23. The subject of the good message is determined by the context of the passage: for example, we are told Jesus preached “**the gospel of the kingdom**” (Matthew 4:23); yet Paul was “to testify **the gospel of the grace of God**” which he received of the Lord Jesus (Acts 20:24). Paul also taught the Galatians the gospel to which they were called was “**the grace of Christ**” (Galatians 1:6).

What, then is the essence of the “**gospel of the kingdom**” declared by Jesus, and are we to understand that Jesus instructed Paul to preach the very same gospel?

**Study:**

1. Starting with the work of John the Baptist:
  - a. Read Matthew 3:1-12
    - i. v.2 what is it to “repent”, and of what was to be repented?
      1. Read Acts 19:1-7; how does this passage explain John’s baptism?
    - ii. The Apostle Paul also speaks of repentance on several occasions:
      1. Read 2Corinthians 7:8-10; what is the matter of repentance?
      2. Read Romans 11:25-32; what is the matter of repentance?
      3. Read 2Timothy 2:24-26; what is the matter of repentance?
    - iii. v.6 “baptized” in the water of the Jordan River; “confessing” their “sins”.
      1. What is it to confess one’s sins?
    - iv. How does repenting and confessing compare?
    - v. v.7 What was the “wrath” to come?
      1. Read Romans 2:3-6; how does Paul identify “wrath” to the Jewish and Gentile believers in Rome?
      2. Read 1Thessalonians 5:4-11; how does Paul describe “wrath” to the Body of Christ?
    - vi. v.11 How many forms of baptism are identified in this verse?
2. Jesus’ first message to Israel:
  - a. Read Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
    - i. v.17 what is the first message declared by Jesus?
    - ii. v.23-24 what is a “gospel”, and what gospel is being declared by Jesus?
      1. What in these verses was included with the Kingdom?
        - a. Isaiah 35:5-6
        - b. Isaiah 49:24-25
3. Jesus confirms what Israel is to be and do:
  - a. Read Matthew 5:13-20
    - i. v.13 how is Israel described in this verse?
    - ii. v.16 how is Israel to function and to what purpose?
      1. Deuteronomy 4:5-8
      2. Zechariah 8:20-23
      3. James 2:18-24
    - iii. v.18 when will the Law be changed?

1. When will heaven and earth “pass”?
  - a. See Revelation 21:1
- iv. v.19-20 when will one “who shall break one of these least commandments” be called least in the Kingdom?
4. Jesus instructs the multitudes of Israel, as well as his disciples, concerning life going into the Kingdom:
  - a. Read Matthew 6:1-2, 8-15, 28-33
    - i. v.2 what kind of behavior does Jesus warn against?
    - ii. v.10 what were the disciples to pray for concerning the kingdom and earth?
    - iii. v.11 for what were they to pray?
    - iv. v.14-15 what is the instruction concerning forgiveness?
      1. Compare Ephesians 4:31-32
    - v. v.31-33 where were those of Israel following Jesus to get their food and clothing?
      1. Compare 2Thessalonians 3:10-12
        - a. Why did Jesus not instruct as did Paul?
5. Jesus instructs the multitudes concerning judging:
  - a. Read Matthew 7:1, 2, 21-29
    - i. v.1 What does Jesus instruct concerning judging another?
      1. Compare 2Thessalonians 3:14-15
      2. Compare 1Corinthians 6:2, 5
    - ii. v.21, 24, 26 what is the common requirement in these three verses?
6. Jesus preaches the Gospel of the Kingdom:
  - a. Read Matthew 9:35 what accompanied the Gospel of the Kingdom preaching by Jesus?
    - i. Read Mark 1:15 did the Gospel (i.e.: good news) of the Kingdom proclaim Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection on the third day as necessary to be believed for one to be saved?
7. Jesus instructs his disciples concerning to whom the Gospel of the Kingdom is to be preached:
  - a. Read Matthew 10:1-8, 19-22, 32-39
    - i. v.5 where were the disciples not to go?
    - ii. v.6 to whom were the disciples to go?
    - iii. v.7 what were the disciples to preach?
    - iv. v.8 why were the disciples to do the miracles listed in this verse?
      1. Consider again Isaiah 35:5-6, 49:24-25
    - v. v.19 what were the disciples to study to know how to testify?
      1. Compare 2Corinthians 5:12, Colossians 4:6
    - vi. v.22, 32-33 what did Jesus tell his disciples was required to be saved?
8. Jesus preaches in the cities of the disciples
  - a. Read Matthew 11:1-15, 20
    - i. v.3-5 what is the response that Jesus provides the disciples of John the Baptist?
    - ii. v.12-15 what did Jesus tell the multitudes concerning John the Baptist?
    - iii. v.20 of what did the cities where Jesus did miracles not repent?

9. Jesus warns against blasphemy
  - a. Read Matthew 12:22-32
    - i. v.28 what did Jesus do in the preceding verses that he now once again offers the Kingdom?
    - ii. v.29 who is the strong man?
    - iii. v.31-32 what sin does Jesus tell the Pharisees will not be forgiven?
      1. Compare Colossians 2:13; what sins are forgiven the Body of Christ?
      2. Compare 2Corinthians 5:19; what sins are being imputed to men during the current Dispensation of the Grace of God (Ephesians 3:2)?
        - a. Define: impute
        - b. Define: reconcile
10. Jesus warns Israel of even their words:
  - a. Read Matthew 12:33-37
    - i. v.36 “every idle word” where “idle” is defined: leisurely, lazy, useless. These “idle” words will be judged of who?
      1. Compare 2Corinthians 5:10, Romans 6:6-7 and consider if Matthew 12:33-37 will be brought to bear on the Body of Christ?
11. Jesus warns of unclean spirits:
  - a. Read Matthew 12:43-45
    - i. v.45 how might this concern a member of the Body of Christ during the present Dispensation of the Grace of God, if at all?
      1. Consider Ephesians 1:12-14; what do these verses teach happens to the one that has “trusted in Christ” unto salvation?
12. Jesus provides the reason for speaking in parables:
  - a. Read Matthew 13:10-17
    - i. v.11 how are the “mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven” things that were not known – see verses 13-15. See Isaiah 6:9-10
    - ii. v.17 what does Jesus say was true of “many prophets and righteous *men*”?
      1. See Acts 3:20-21 what does Peter say was known and for how long?
      2. See Romans 16:25 what does Paul say of his preaching?
13. Jesus and the Kingdom of Heaven Parable of the Leaven:
  - a. Read Matthew 13:33
    - i. Read Exodus 12:15, 12:19, Matthew 16:6, 12, 1Corinthians 5:7; how does “leaven” appear in these verses: good or bad?
    - ii. According to the Parable of the Leaven what will be the eventual outcome of the Kingdom of Heaven?
    - iii. Read Revelation 21:1 how will God remedy the outcome of the Parable of the Leaven?
14. Jesus demonstrates He will provide for all in the Kingdom:
  - a. Read Matthew 14:15-21
    - i. v.20 what should Israel have believed concerning care of them in the Kingdom?

15. Jesus condescends to a Gentile:
  - a. Read Matthew 15:21-28
    - i. v.28 what was the reason Jesus did for the Canaanite women that for which she asked?
  
16. Jesus heals as foretold by Isaiah of Israel's messiah:
  - a. Read Matthew 15:29-31
    - i. v.31 what was the response of the multitude that witnessed all that were healed?
      1. See Isaiah 35:5-6 what does Isaiah foretell of conditions during the Kingdom?
  
17. Jesus asks His disciples whom they believe him to be, and then foretells them of His coming death:
  - a. Read Matthew 16:13-27
    - i. v.16 the focus of Jesus' question is his identity: "...**who** do men say that I the Son of man am?". How does Simon Peter answer Jesus question?
      1. Read Matthew 26:62-63 what is the question of the Jewish high priest?
      2. Read Matthew 26:64 how does Jesus answer the high priest?
    - ii. v.19 what, in this verse, is the significance of "keys"?
      1. Read Matthew 18:1, 15-19 what is the response of heaven to the disciple's action on earth?
      2. Read Matthew 19:27-28 how does Jesus answer Peter's question?
    - iii. v.20-22 how does Peter respond to Jesus telling them of His coming death, burial and resurrection?
      1. Read 1Corinthians 15:1-4 what does Paul "declare"?
    - iv. v.23 how does Jesus respond to Peter?
      1. Read 1Corinthians 15:5 who does Paul first list of the disciples to have seen the risen Christ?
  
18. Jesus again tells His disciples what will happen to Him:
  - a. Read Matthew 17:22-23
    - i. v.23 how do the disciples respond when Jesus again tells them of his death and resurrection?
  
19. Jesus speaks of gathering together:
  - a. Read Matthew 18:20
    - i. What does Jesus say is true when "two or three are gathered together" in his name?
      1. Read 1Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20 what does Paul say is true of a believer in the dispensation of the grace of God (Ephesians 3:2)?
  
20. Jesus teaches conditions necessary to receive forgiveness of debts:
  - a. Read Matthew 18:21-35
    - i. v.27 what did this one do that the King "forgave him the debt"?
      1. Was having the debt forgiven an act of mercy or grace?
    - ii. v.34 what was the end state of the one that would not forgive a fellowservant (v.28)?

- iii. v.35 what condition did Jesus place on receiving forgiveness according to the Kingdom gospel?
        - 1. Read Ephesians 4:31-32 what instruction is given by Paul regarding forgiving others in the dispensation of the grace of God?
21. The Gospel of the Kingdom and eternal life:
- a. Read Matthew 19:16-26
    - i. v.16 what was the question asked of Jesus?
    - ii. v.17 what did Jesus say was necessary for one to “enter into life”?
    - iii. v.18-20 how well had the man kept all that Jesus said was required?
    - iv. v.21 what action was yet required for the man to be “perfect”?
      - 1. Read Titus 3:7 how, during the dispensation of the grace of God, are we “made heirs according to the hope of eternal life”?
22. Jesus again tells of His death and resurrection:
- a. Read Matthew 20:17-19
    - i. v.18-19 what information has Jesus consistently told his disciples of what will happen to him in Jerusalem (also see references below)?
      - 1. See Mark 9:9-10, 31-32; 10:32-34
      - 2. See Luke 18:31-34
23. Jesus and the parable of the marriage:
- a. Read Matthew 22:1-14
    - i. v.2 for whom was the marriage?
    - ii. v.3-6 how did those that were “bidden to the wedding” respond?
    - iii. v.7-10 how did the King respond and what action did he take?
    - iv. v.11-12 how did the King react to a man there “not having a wedding garment”?
      - 1. v.12b why was the man “speechless”?
        - a. See Romans 3:19
      - 2. How was this man to be ready with a “wedding garment”?
        - a. See Revelation 19:7-9
          - i. v.7 “... and His wife hath made” who ready?
          - ii. v.8 “...for the fine linen is the righteousness of” who?
24. Jesus speaks of the authority of the scribes and Pharisees:
- a. Read Matthew 23:1-12
    - i. v.3a what did Jesus command concerning the scribes and Pharisees?
    - ii. v.9 what religion today uses this title?
    - iii. v.10 what religion today uses this title?
25. Jesus tells the scribes and Pharisees what will result from their refusal of Him:
- a. Read Matthew 23:29-39
    - i. v.31, 34 what did the religious leaders do to all the prophets sent to Israel?
    - ii. v.35-36 what did Jesus say would come upon them?
    - iii. v.38-39 with their house left desolate, when will Israel again see their messiah?
      - 1. See Psalms 118:26
        - a. Compare Matthew 21:9-11 did Israel fulfill Psalms 118:26?
      - 2. See Matthew 16:15-16 did Israel respond in like manner as Peter?

- b. Read Matthew 24:1-14
    - i. v.5 what will be the topic of deception?
    - ii. v.13 how will one that is not deceived be saved?
    - iii. v.14 what gospel will be preached?
      - 1. See Matthew 17:22-23 are these words of Jesus the gospel (i.e.: the good news) of the Kingdom?
26. The Gospel of the Kingdom and the return of Christ:
- a. Read Matthew 24:26-31
    - i. v.27, 29 what light will fill the sky at the return of the Son of man?
    - ii. v.30 what shall all the tribes of the earth do when they see the sign of the Son of man?
      - 1. Zechariah 12:10 why will they “mourn”?
      - 2. Zechariah 13:6 where were the wounds inflicted?
        - a. See John 3:29, 15:14; Matthew 26:48-50
      - 3. John 20:20 who first were “glad” seeing Jesus’ wounds?
      - 4. John 20:24-29 who also believed after seeing Jesus’ wounds?
      - 5. Revelation 7:13-17 what will happen to the tears of those that mourn?
27. Jesus calls the one to betray Him, “friend”:
- a. Read Matthew 26:47-50
    - i. v.48-50 how did the betrayer address Jesus; what did he say to Him?
      - 1. Psalms 41:9, 55:12-14, Zechariah 13:6 how does the Psalmist refer to the betrayer?
28. Jesus is charged with blasphemy:
- a. Read Matthew 26:59-66
    - i. v.62-63 review how Caiaphas the high priest addressed Jesus; what did he ask?
    - ii. v.64 how did Jesus respond to the high priest?
      - 1. Psalm 110:1 how did Jesus inform the high priest what to expect?
    - iii. v.65 with what did the high priest charge Jesus?
      - 1. Matthew 9:3 what was the charge?
      - 2. John 10:31-33 what did the Jews want to do to Jesus and for what reason?
        - a. See Psalms 2:2-3
29. Jesus commissions His disciples:
- a. Read Matthew 28:18-20
    - i. v.18 over what realm does Jesus declare His authority?
      - 1. Isaiah 14:13-14 what is it to be, “...like the most High.”?
        - a. See Genesis 14:18-19, Revelation 11:15
    - ii. v.19 did Jesus instruct that His disciples should go to all nations to:
      - 1. Convert?
      - 2. Save?
      - 3. Teach?
    - iii. v.19 to whom did Jesus send His Apostles?
      - 1. See Matthew 10:5-7 this was the command to Peter/ the eleven.
      - 2. See Acts 9:13-16 this was the command to Paul.
    - iv. v.20 what were the eleven apostles to teach?
      - 1. Which of Jesus commands would not be included?

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