

Series: A Greater Understanding Of The New Testament

The Gospel Of Jesus The Christ

Lesson 2



The English word "Gospel" appears 103 times in 97 verses in the New King James Version Of The New Testament. The word "Gospel" originally denoted a reward for good tidings, later the idea of reward was dropped, and the word stood for the goods news itself" (W.E. Vine). We love to hear good news and the coming of Jesus the Christ, His life, death, burial, and resurrection is good news for the redemption of humanity from sin!

The Gospel In A Nutshell

The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:1 wrote, " Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand..." What did Paul declare when he preached the Gospel? Paul preached that...

- **Christ died for our sins** (1 Cor. 15:3).
- **Christ was buried** (1 Cor. 15:4).
- **Christ rose again the third day** (1 Cor. 15:4).

"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3-4).

When the Gospel was preached the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus was preached!

The Gospel Is Good Tidings & Great Joy

The Gospel is a message of "glad tidings" and "great joy" (Lk.2:10-11). The angels announced to the shepherds...

*"Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you **good tidings** of **great joy** which will be to all people. ¹¹For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Lk. 2:10-11).*

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a message of good news that salvation is available in Christ (Eph. 1:3-10).

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Eph. 1:7).

"...that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (2 Tim. 2:10).

The Gospel Is God's Power To Save

Peter penned, *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"* (2 Pet. 3:9). It's God's desire that all men be saved! God has provided the plan for all men, but whether men are saved is not dependent on everyone to obey the Gospel.

The Apostle Paul penned, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."* (Rom. 1:16-17). The Gospel...

- **Is God's power to save** (Rom. 1:16).
- **Reveals the righteousness of God** (Rom. 1:17).
- **Expresses to man the wisdom of God** (1 Cor. 1:24).

"but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Cor. 1:23-24).

Paul said he was not ashamed of the Gospel for *"...for it is the power of God to salvation..."* (Rom. 1:16). The Gospel has the power to change the lives of men. Jesus can turn unbelievers into believers, sinners to saints, and the servants of sin to servant of righteousness. Jesus died so that we could live.

The Gospel's Makeup

- ✚ **Facts To Be Believed.** The Gospel contains real people, in real places, experiencing real events. Jesus is real (1 Jn. 1:1-3), and His birth (Matt. 1:18), life (Matt. 2:1), death (Matt. 27:50), burial (Matt. 27:59-60), resurrection (Matt. 28:6), and ascension (Acts 1:9) are real historical events.
- ✚ **Commands To Be Obeyed.** Jesus taught, *"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins"* (Jn. 8:24). The Gospel is to be believed and obeyed. Jesus said, *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven"* (Matt. 7:21). Men must be doers of God's word (Jas. 1:22).
- ✚ **Promises To Be Enjoyed.** The Hebrew writer said, *"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful"* (Heb. 10:23). When God makes a promise, we can be sure that He will keep what He said or promised. A reading of 1 John 2:25 reveals, *"And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life."*

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—²³Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; ²⁴whom God raised up..." (Acts 2:22-24).

All spiritual blessings are "in Christ" (Eph. 1:3). One gets into Christ by obeying the Gospel. Jesus said, *"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned"* (Mk. 16:16). There is no hope for those who reject the Gospel of Jesus the Christ (2 Thess. 1:7-9).