

# The Gospel And 31 Doctrines Of The Church Preached By Christ In The Four Gospels *By Pastor Art Watkins*

Modern dispensationalism makes the claim that it has the *keys that unlocks the scriptures*, when in fact their so called *keys* lock up the scriptures. They have put up a no trespassing sign on the Old Testament scriptures, on the Four Gospels and Hebrews through Revelation and some of them have even put a no trespassing sign on the epistles Paul wrote in the so called Acts period. They tell us that the gospel and doctrines of the church are not found in any books but Romans through Philemon. The Scofield Bible has a note at the bottom of Ephesians 3 that says: that in Paul's writings ALONE is found the doctrine for the church. He is wrong and so are many people today who call themselves dispensationalists. The facts are, Paul based at least 60 church doctrines in his epistles on the Old Testament scriptures and quotes it nearly 200 times in his epistles, 70 times in the book of Romans alone.

In this booklet we will focus our attention on the Four Gospels. Many dispensationalists teach that the gospel and doctrines of the church cannot be found in the Four Gospels. They say Christ was sent to Israel only and what he preached pertained to Israel only and not the church. They say we should follow what he said to Paul in Romans through Philemon only. But the fact is, every major doctrine we believe today was preached by Christ in the Four Gospels and by the apostles also. I personally believe that if you do not read and study and understand what Christ preached and did in the Four Gospels you do not and cannot really know him in all his glory and magnificence which precisely why the devil will try to keep you out of them.

In this book you will see 31 major church doctrines in the Four Gospels that we preach today. These are not minor doctrines, but major doctrines that the apostles and we preach constantly. If church doctrine is found in the Four Gospels then we should first find the church in the Four Gospels. Can we? Many dispensationalists say no and base their theory on one verse of scripture: **Matthew 15:24: But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.** To most dispensationalists this verse sums up Christ's ministry in the Four Gospels and so they close the books and say they are for Israel only and not the church. But what they willingly ignore is what he said in the next chapter about the church he said he would build.

## The Church

***Matthew 16:18: And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.***

This verse sets the pace for the Four Gospels. It gives us one of the main reasons he came into the world and what he and his apostles did while they were in the world. He and his apostles built his church. In Acts 1 after spending 40 days teaching the

apostles he went back up into heaven and sat down at God's right hand. Mark 16:19 says: **So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.**

When he sat down at God's right hand God made him the head of the church. It says in Ephesians 1:20-23: that **God: raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.**

Jesus Christ became the head of the Church of God when he sat down at God's right hand when he ascended back into heaven in Acts 1. This is why he is called the beginning of the church in Colossians 1:18 which says: **And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.** He is the beginning of the church because he is the head.

10 days after Christ became the head of the church believers were added to the church in Acts 2:47. It says: **And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.** In Acts 5:14 it says: **And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.** One verse says they were added to the church and the other says they were added to the Lord because the church was Christ's body. In Acts 2 God sent the Spirit of Christ to dwell in the hearts of believers and at the same time they were baptized into Christ thus making them the body of Christ. Throughout the book of Acts 1000's of believers, both Jews and Gentiles were added to the church that Christ came to build in the Four Gospels.

If he built his church doesn't it only stand to reason that we should find the gospel and doctrines for his church in the Four Gospels? Of course. And if Paul wrote his epistles to the church that Christ built shouldn't we find him preaching the same gospel and doctrine as Christ? Yes.

In this book we will compare what Christ and Paul preached to prove beyond a doubt that they both preached the same gospel and doctrine to the same church that Christ said he would build in the Four Gospels.

## **The Gospel Of Our Salvation**

### **Paul**

Paul defines the gospel that saves us in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4: **For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

He also wrote in 1 Timothy 2:5-6: **For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**

Paul preached the sacrificial death and resurrection of Christ for our sins. This is the gospel that saves us today.

## Christ and the Gospel

In Matthew 20:28 he said: **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**

Matthew 26:26-28: **And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.**

John 3:14: **And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: John 12:32-33: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.**

John 6:51: **I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.**

John 10:11: **I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.**

John 10:15: **As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

John 10:17-18: **Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.**

Jesus said over and over again that he would die and shed his blood to save and ransom us from sin. This is the same gospel we preach today. Some dispensationalists say that Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom and of course he did, but he preached the cross with it also just like the apostles and just like us for the simple reason there can be no kingdom without the cross and the kingdom of God is the inheritance we receive when we believe the gospel. Paul himself preached the kingdom of God at the same time he preached the gospel of grace. He said in Acts 20:24-25: **But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Paul like Jesus preached the kingdom of God at the same time he preached the cross.**

## The Eternal Security Of the Believer

### Paul

Paul wrote of the eternal security of all believers in many places in his epistles. For example: In Ephesians 1:13-14 he wrote: **In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the**

praise of his glory. In Ephesians 4:30 he wrote: **And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**

God puts his Spirit in every believer as an earnest, promise and guarantee that he will redeem their bodies when Jesus comes again.

### **Christ and Security**

**John 10:27-29** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: **And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.**

Those who believe on Christ have a guarantee from him that they will NEVER perish and another promise that no one or nothing can pluck them out his hand or his Father's hand. These are some of the greatest promises of eternal security in the Bible and they were made by Christ in the Four Gospels!

**John 6:39:** **And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.**

This is another verse concerning security. It's a promise from Christ that he will not lose one believer his Father gave him. This means it's not up to us to keep from losing Christ, it's up to him to keep from losing us and he has never and will never lose one believer his Father gave him!

## **Freedom From Condemnation**

### **Paul**

Paul preached freedom from eternal condemnation. He wrote in Romans 8:1: **There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

### **Christ and Freedom From Condemnation**

**John 5:24:** **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

**John 3:14:** **He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.**

Christ preached freedom from condemnation years before Paul was saved. We are free from eternal condemnation because Christ was condemned for us on the cross.

## **Present Tense Salvation**

### **Paul**

Paul preached salvation as a present possession. 2 Timothy 1:9: **Who hath saved us, (past tense) and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,**

Titus 3:5: **Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, (past tense) by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**

### **Christ and Present Tense Salvation**

Notice the tenses:

John 3:36: **He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: (present tense) and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

John 5:24: **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, (present tense) and shall not come into condemnation; (future tense) but is passed from death unto life. (past tense)**

John 6:47: **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. (present tense)**

Jesus Christ preached salvation and eternal life as a present possession. This is not a new doctrine preached by Paul for Christ preached it years before Paul.

## **The Oneness Of Believers In Christ**

### **Paul**

Throughout Paul's epistles he writes of the oneness of believers in Christ.

**Colossians 1:27: To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:**

**1 Corinthians 1:30: But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:**

According to Paul Christ is in all believers and all believers are in Christ thus making them Christ's body.

### **Christ and The Oneness of Believers**

John 14:16-20: **And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day (the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2) ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.**

Before he left the world Christ made a promise to his apostles and their converts that he would send the Holy Spirit into the world to be their comforter. He said that in the day the Spirit came (Acts 2) they would know he was in them and they were in him.

In Matthew 16 he said he would build his church and this verse shows us his church is his body for he now dwells in the believer and the believer in him thus making them one body in Christ. The church is called the body of Christ for the simple reason

Christ dwells in the believer and the believer is in Christ. Christ preached the oneness of believers in his years before Paul.

## The Blessed Hope

To see that Christ and Paul preached the blessed hope we will compare John 14:1-3 with 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

### Christ

John 14:1-3 says: **Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there ye may be also.***

### Paul

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17: For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord!"**

There is a four-fold correspondence between these two passages:

(1) Jesus said: *"I will come again."* Paul wrote, *"The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven."*

(2) Jesus promised: *"I will receive you unto myself."* Paul declared that the saints shall be *"caught up together to meet the Lord in the air."*

(3) The Savior promised, *"Where I am, there ye may be also;"* Paul assures us, *"So shall we ever be with the Lord."*

(4) The Savior prefaced His gracious promises by saying, *"Let not your heart be troubled;"* Paul the apostle concludes by saying; *"Wherefore comfort one another with these words."*

The hope is one and the same and it's the blessed hope of all believers.

## Salvation Of The World

### Paul

Paul said Christ came into the world to save sinners. He wrote: 1 Timothy 1:15: **This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.**

### Christ and The Salvation Of The World

.John 1:29: **The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

John 3:16-17: **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.**

John 4:42: **And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard *him* ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.**

John 6:33: **For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.**

John 6:51: **I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.**

John 12:47: **And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.**

Dispensationalists say Jesus came to save Israel but the Bible says he came to save the world. Who are you going to believe?

## **Eternal Life**

### **Paul**

The gospel preached by Paul offered men eternal life. Romans 6:23: **For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### **Christ and Eternal Life**

The gospel preached by Christ offered sinners eternal life.

John 3:14-16: **And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

John 3:36: **He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

John 4:14: **But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.**

John 5:24: **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

John 6:40: **And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

John 6:47: **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.**

John 10:28: **And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.**

John 17:2-3: **As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

Jesus Christ preached eternal life by believing on him years before Paul was saved. Just for the record; the words *everlasting life* appears 8 times in the 4 gospels, but only 1 time in Paul's 14 epistles. The words *eternal life* appears 10 times in the 4 gospels but only 7 in the 14 epistles of Paul.

## **The Lord's Supper**

### **Christ and The Lord's Supper**

The first Lord's Supper was observed by Christ and the 12 apostles the night he was betrayed. It says in Matthew 26:26-30: **And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.**

### **Paul and The Lord's Supper**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26: **For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.**

Notice Paul said we should observe the Lord's Supper till Jesus comes again and when we observe the Lord's Supper we shew and declare publicly that we believe his body was broken for us and his blood was shed for us on the cross. And yet there are many dispensationalists who refuse to observe the Lord's Supper! Why? Because it is a memorial of the New Testament. They say the New Covenant was made with Israel and not the church and so they do not partake of it even though Paul the man they claim to follow said to observe it till Jesus comes again! This brings us to our next point:

## **The New Covenant**

### **Christ**

Jesus Christ came to establish the New Covenant and to abolish the Old Covenant which he did at the cross.

**Hebrews 9:15-17: And for this cause he is (present tense) the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament *is*, there must**

**also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.**

As all testaments the New Testament took force when Christ died.

**Hebrews 10:8-10: Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and *offering* for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure *therein*; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, (Old covenant law) that he may establish the second. (New Covenant of grace) By the which (New Covenant) will we are sanctified (Present tense) through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**

It clearly says that by his death on the cross Jesus Christ took away the Old Covenant Law of Moses and established the New Covenant of grace in its place by which we are sanctified today. This is what John meant when he wrote John 1:17: **For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.** The grace that came by Jesus Christ is in the New Covenant, especially in his once for all sacrifice for sin on the cross.

### **Paul**

Hyper dispensationalists are quick to point out that the New Covenant was made with Israel but Paul is quick to point out that God made him a minister of the New Covenant which gives them spasms.

In 2 Corinthians 3:6-11 he wrote: **Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, (old covenant) but of the spirit: (new covenant) for the letter killeth, (old covenant) but the spirit (new covenant) giveth life. But if the ministration of death, written *and* engraven in stones, was glorious, (old covenant) so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which *glory* was to be done away: How shall not the ministration of the spirit (new covenant) be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation *be* glory, (old covenant) much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. (new covenant)**

This is why we observe the Lord's Supper today for it is a memorial of the New Testament that Paul was a minister of. Gentile believers today partake of all the spiritual blessings of the New Covenant for we are made partakers of Israel's spiritual blessings according to Romans 15:27. One of the greatest blessings he promised them was the New Covenant. Also, because we are Christ's we are counted as Abraham's seed and heirs to the promise and promises God made to his seed and one of the greatest promises was the promise of a New Covenant. (Galatians 3:29)

## **The Kingdom Of God**

### **Christ**

Throughout his ministry Christ preached both the physical and spiritual kingdom of God.

**Luke 8:1: And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve *were* with him,**

**Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

**Matthew 8:11-12:** And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, (gentiles) and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Luke 17:20-21:** And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

The Pharisees in that day had the same problem that many dispensationalists have today; they thought the kingdom of God was physical only. But Jesus preached a spiritual kingdom of God that was inside of a man that did not come with observation like the physical.

**Matthew 12:28:** But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

This is the spiritual kingdom of God that came when he came the first time. It is still here today and if you have been born again you have been translated into it according to Colossians 1:13.

### **Paul and The Kingdom Of God**

Next to Jesus Christ Paul preached the kingdom of God more than anyone.

**Acts 14:22:** Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

**Acts 19:8:** And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.

**Acts 20:25:** And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

**Acts 28:23:** And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

**Acts 28:31:** Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Paul not only preached the kingdom of God but he also *wrote* about the Kingdom of God in his epistles. See Eph.5:5, Col.1:13, 1 Thess.2:12, Gal.5:21, 1 Cor. 6:9, 1 Cor.15:50, 2 Thess.1:5.

Please note that Paul preached the Kingdom of God at the same time he preached the Gospel of Grace. In **Acts 20:24-25** Paul said; ***But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.***

When Paul preached the Gospel of the Grace of God (24) he also preached the Kingdom of God (25). The Kingdom of God is a part of the Gospel of Grace for a very good reason. The Kingdom of God is the inheritance we receive when we believe the Gospel of Grace. (Acts 26:18)

## The New Birth

### Christ and The New Birth

**John 3:3-7: Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**

Simply put, the new birth is defined as your spirit little "s" being born of God's Spirit capital "S" in verse 6. When your dead spirit is born of God's Spirit it is regenerated and quickened and made alive. Jesus said you must be born again to see and to enter into the kingdom of God. This tells us that anyone who preached the kingdom of God had to preach the new birth for no one can enter into it without being born again.

### Paul

You just read where Paul preached the kingdom of God more than any apostle and if so then he had to preach the new birth. But he does not use the words *new birth* instead he uses the words *regeneration of the Spirit* in Titus 3:5 and the *quickening of the Spirit* in the Ephesians 2:1 and *alive from the dead* in Romans 6:13 which is exactly what the new birth is.

He also alluded to the new birth in these verses:

1 Corinthians 4:15: **For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.**

**Philemon 1:10: I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:**

**Galatians 4:28-29: Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.**

In Paul's day the unbelieving Jews who were born of the flesh only, persecuted believers who were born of the Spirit. See 1 Thess. 2:14.

In the following verses you will see that the new birth was preached by all the apostles and all their converts were born again, present tense. 1 Peter 1:3, 1:23, 1 John 2:24, 2:29, 3:9, 4:7, 5:1, 5:4, 5:18.

# The Law of God

## Christ and The Law

**Matthew 5:17-18: Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

There is a seeming contradiction between these verses and Ephesians 2:15. Matthew says he did not come to destroy the law but Ephesians 2:15 says he did. Ephesians 2:15: **Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace.**

How do we explain this seeming contradiction? The law he did not destroy was the Law of God that will never be destroyed. The law he destroyed was the Law of Moses and its ordinances concerning such things as; animal sacrifices, Sabbath days, holy days, dietary laws, temple worship, the priesthood etc.

The Law of God is the 9 moral laws of the 10 commandments which have been in force since the beginning and will always be in force.

## Paul and the Law of God

**Romans 7:12: Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.**

**Romans 7:22: For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:**

**Romans 7:25: I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.**

Notice what Paul said about the law of God.

In verse 12 he said it is holy, just and good.

In verse 22 he said he delighted in the law of God.

In verse 25 he served the law of God.

And he also told us to keep the law of God:

**Romans 13:8-10: Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.**

No one has ever or will ever be free from these laws.

## The Indwelling Spirit

One of the great blessings of salvation is the indwelling Spirit of God. God puts his Spirit in every believer as a mark of ownership, a guarantee of salvation and to be their teacher, guide and Comforter.

## Paul and The Spirit

**Galatians 4:6: And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**

Romans 8:9: **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

1 Corinthians 2:12: **Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

### **Christ and The Spirit**

John 14:16-18: **And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

John 14:26: **But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**

John 15:26: **But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:**

John 16:7: **Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.**

John 16:13-14: **Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.**

Before Jesus left the world he promised those who believed on him that he would send the Spirit back into the world to dwell in them forever. And that the Spirit would be their teacher, guide and Comforter. This is one of the great blessings of the church that we enjoy today preached by Christ years before Paul was saved.

### **Gentile Salvation**

Even though Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision he was a not a minister of the circumcision only, for he preached unto the gentiles.

### **Paul and The Gentiles**

We know Paul preached unto the gentiles and was an apostle of the gentiles but notice what he said about Christ and the gentiles in 1 Timothy 3:16: **And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**

Paul clearly says that Christ preached unto the gentiles and they believed on him during the time of the Four Gospels.

## Christ and The Gentiles

Matthew 12:16-21: **And charged them that they should not make him known: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. (Judgment here means truth - the truth of God, the gospel) He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment (Truth) unto victory. And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.**

This prophecy was fulfilled when the gentile multitudes came to him from Idumea and beyond Jordan, and from Tyre and Sidon, as recorded by Mark 3:7-8. Christ went and preached to the gentiles years before Peter or Paul. They were the first fruits of the harvest of the gentiles that came later in Acts. It is no mystery that Christ would preach to them for it was prophesied by Isaiah that he would. See Isaiah 41:1-3 and Isaiah 49:6. Read also:

**Roman 15:8-12: Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* unto the fathers: And that the Gentiles might glorify God for *his* mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.**

Most dispensationalists stop reading after verse 8 and ignore verses 9-12 that clearly predicted that gentiles would believe on Christ along with the Jews. In these verses Paul quotes Psalms 18:49, Psalms 117:1, Deuteronomy 32:43. Isaiah 11:1, 10 showing again that it was prophesied that gentiles would believe on Christ with the Jews. Jesus Christ fulfilled verse 8 in person and fulfilled verses 9-12 *by proxy*; that is through Paul. Paul fulfilled the gentile ministry of Christ in his behalf according to Romans 15:16 and Acts 13:47. But it was Christ who first went and preached to them before Peter or Paul.

## The Mystery of The Resurrection

### Paul

The coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead was not a mystery. The mystery pertained to those alive when Jesus comes to raise the dead. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:51: **Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

The mystery is not Christ's coming. The mystery is not the resurrection of the dead. The mystery according to Paul is: **WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP.** Some will sleep, that is die, but not all. He goes on to write in 1 Corinthians 15:53-55: **For this corruptible (our bodies) must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?**

Paul shows us that when Jesus comes two Old Testament prophecies will be fulfilled; he quotes Isaiah 25:8 and Hosea 13:14. When they said, *O grave where is thy victory?* that is a reference to the dead in Christ. They will be raised victorious over the grave. When they said, *O death, where is thy sting?* that is a reference to those who will be alive when Jesus comes. They will never experience the sting of death. They will be caught up without dying. The general belief at that time was that by the time the Lord came all saints would be dead, but the mystery is that some will be alive and will never die. This was a mystery for many years even though it was written down in the prophets. Christ preached it years before Paul.

### **Christ and The Resurrection**

After the death of Lazarus Jesus went to see him and it says: John 11:21-27: **Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.**

When Jesus told her that Lazarus would rise from the dead she said she knew he would rise again at the resurrection at the last day. She understood that dead saints will be raised from the dead when Jesus comes in the last day. But then Jesus said unto her: ***whosoever believeth in me shall never die. Beliveth thou this?*** When Jesus said he that believeth in me shall never die he was speaking of those alive when he comes in the last day. They will never die. They will never sleep. They are the ones who will say in that day: *O death where is thy sting?* It appears she did not understand this and it's because it was still a mystery until God revealed it more clearly to Paul in 1 Corinthians 15. But the fact is, Jesus Christ said that those who are alive when he comes in the last day will never die years before Paul but Isaiah and Hosea said it 100's of years before Christ or Paul!

## **The Abolishing of the Law of Moses**

### **Paul**

In Paul's epistles he plainly says the Law of Moses was abolished by the cross and that God made him a minister of the New Covenant or Testament that took its place. Ephesians 2:15: **Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;**

Colossians 2:14: ***Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;***

Paul also reveals to us that God made him a minister of the New Covenant or Testament that took the place of the Old Covenant Law. In 2 Corinthians 3:6 he wrote: **Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, (Old Covenant Law) but of the spirit: (New Testament) for the letter killeth, (The Law) but the spirit giveth life. (New Testament)**

## Christ and the Old Covenant Law

Matthew 26:26-29: **And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.**

This is the first Lord's Supper and it's the supper that commemorates the New Testament. He said, ***For this is my blood of the new testament.*** The Passover was the Old Covenant supper that commemorated their salvation from Egypt and the Lord's Supper is the supper of the New Covenant that commemorates Christ's body broken for us and his blood shed for us on the cross.

According to Hebrews 9:16-17 the New Covenant took force when Jesus died and he is now the mediator and high priest of the New Covenant today.

Hebrews 9:15-17: **And for this cause he is (Present tense) the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.**

Like all testaments the New Testament took force when Christ died and today he is the mediator and high priest of the New Testament. This is why we observe the Lord's Supper today, for it is a memorial of the new testament that took force when Christ died. This is also why God made Paul a minister of the New Testament according to 2 Corinthians 3:6.

If the New Covenant took force when Jesus died, what happened to the Old Covenant Law of Moses? It was taken out of the way. Hebrews 10:9-10 says: **Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, (Old Covenant Law) that he may establish the second. (New Covenant of Grace) By the which (New Covenant) will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*.**

The death of Jesus Christ not only established a New Covenant of Grace but it took away the Old Covenant Law. When Jesus observed the Lord's Supper with his apostles and made the announcement that he would shed his blood to establish a New Testament he was also announcing the end of the Old Testament Law for they cannot co-exist. Paul said likewise. For God to make Paul a minister of the New Testament of Grace he had to first take away the Old Testament Law which he did by the cross according to Eph. 2:15 and Col. 2:14.

Paul was not only a minister of the New Covenant, but so was Christ. **Hebrews 8:6-7 says: But now (Present tense) hath he (Christ) obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, (Present tense) which was established upon better promises. For if that first *covenant* (Old) had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. (New)**

## The Grace That Came By Jesus Christ

**John 1:15-17: John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.**

Moses was the law giver and Christ is the grace giver. Grace did not come from any man. Grace did not come from John. It did not come from Peter. It did not come from Paul. Christ is the source of all grace. He is the origin and fountain of grace. Grace was dispensed to Paul just like it is dispensed to all believers; it's the gospel and doctrines of grace we preach. But Jesus Christ is the source and origin of the grace God dispensed to Paul and us.

The grace that came by Jesus Christ is the same grace we preach today. The grace that came by Jesus Christ has the same definition in his day as it does in our day. It is the undeserved and unmerited blessing, favor and salvation of God bestowed upon sinners who neither earn it or deserve it. Christ exercised and demonstrated that grace throughout his public ministry and at the end of his ministry by his death when he abolished the law and established the New Covenant of grace in its place.

Four examples of the grace that came by Jesus Christ in his public ministry. Four people who received the unearned and undeserved grace of Christ instead of the wrath of the law.

\*In John 8:3-11 a woman was caught in the act of adultery. It says:

**And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?** This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with *his* finger wrote on the ground, *as though he heard them not*. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard *it*, being convicted by *their own* conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, *even* unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

The Pharisees were right about this woman taken in the act of adultery. The punishment of the sin of adultery was death. Leviticus 20:10 says: **And the man that committeth adultery with *another* man's wife, *even* he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.**

The law said the adulteress should be put to death, but Jesus forgave her instead. He did what the law did not and could not do. There was no mercy for adulteresses under the law. What Christ did was an act of undeserved and unmerited grace. She deserved to die according to the law, but Christ forgave her instead. The law said you must die but the grace that came by Jesus Christ forgave her instead. The law that

came by Moses could not forgive her, but the grace that came by Jesus Christ did and still does. This is the same grace we preach today.

\*In Luke 7 Jesus was eating a meal in a Pharisees house and a prostitute came in and it says in verse 38-39: **And (she) stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed *them* with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw *it*, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman *this is* that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.**

In verse 44-48 it says: **And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped *them* with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.**

This woman was a whore and all whores were put to death under the law that came by Moses. Deuteronomy 22:21 says: **Then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you.**

The law that came by Moses said this woman should have been stoned to death but the grace that came by Jesus Christ forgave her instead. Whores were stoned under the law but the grace that came by Jesus Christ forgave her and still does. This is the same grace we preach today.

\*In John 4 Jesus met a woman of Samaria at the well and told her about the water of life that would give her eternal life. It says: John 4:16-19: **Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.** This woman had five husbands and she was living with a man who she was not married to which means she was an adulterer. The law that came by Moses could not forgive adulterers, but by the grace that came by Jesus Christ he forgave her as he forgave the women in John 8, Luke 7.

\***Matthew 21:28-32: But what think ye? A *certain* man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. Whether of them twain did the will of *his* father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen *it*, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.**

Notice who he said these words to in verse 23. The chief priests and elders in the temple of God. These are the men who kept the law, taught the law and were very religious. They fasted and prayed and gave alms and worshipped God in the temple. But yet he said that harlots and publicans who did not keep the law and were actually condemned by the law would enter into the KOG and they would not. And what did they do to enter into the kingdom of God They simply repented and believed the gospel preached by John the Baptist. The law said I can't open the door into the kingdom of God to you, but the grace that came by Jesus Christ said, I can, come on in and they did and still do.

Here are four demonstrations of the grace that came by Jesus Christ during his public ministry. He forgave and justified adulteress, harlots and whores and publicans who did not keep the law but who were all condemned by the law. There was no hope or forgiveness for them under the law that came by Moses, but they were all forgiven and justified by the grace that came by Jesus Christ. They did nothing in the way of good works. In fact all their works were bad and the law condemned them all, but yet Christ forgave them and they entered into the kingdom of God and the highly religious priests and elders and Pharisees were shut out.

This is the same grace we preach today. We are saved and justified and enter into the kingdom of God by grace through faith without works. We like them do not deserve or merit what Christ did for us or them. It was and is a gift.

Grace also came by Jesus Christ by his death on the cross. By his death he abolished the law that came by Moses and established a New Covenant of grace in its place.

**Hebrews 10:8-10: Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, Old Covenant law) that he may establish the second. (New Covenant of Grace) By the which (The New Covenant) will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**

John said grace came by Jesus Christ and these verses say the new covenant came by Jesus Christ. They are one and the same. The New Covenant is a covenant of pure grace, for in the New Covenant God provided a perfect sacrifice that takes away all sins and pardons all sinners that the law that came by Moses could not forgive.

In Acts 13:38-39 Paul said: **Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

These verses are a perfect description of the law that came by Moses and the grace that came by Jesus Christ. By his sacrificial death on the cross Christ forgives the sins the law could not forgive and justifies the sinners the law could not pardon. We saw a demonstration of this in the public ministry of Christ when he forgave sinners who could not be forgiven by the law that came by Moses.

The cross is the heart of the New Covenant and it's the cross where we find the unsearchable riches of the grace that came by Jesus Christ. Christ dispensed his unmerited and undeserved grace throughout his public ministry on earth and

especially by his death at the end of his ministry when he abolished the law that came by Moses and established the New Covenant of infinite grace in its place.

The Hebrew Christians had been under the bondage of the law that came by Moses for many years and so the apostles had to bring them up to speed concerning the grace that came by Jesus Christ in the New Covenant.

For example; Peter told them in 2 Peter 3:18: **To grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.** The grace they were told to grow in is the grace of the New Covenant.

In Hebrews 13:9 Paul told them: **Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.**

The meats in this verse refers to the meat offerings of the law and the dietary laws forbidding the eating of certain meats. The grace in this verse is the grace of the New Covenant that freed them from the laws concerning the meats of the old.

In 1 Peter 4:10 Peter told them: **To be good stewards of the manifold grace of God.** The grace of the New Covenant is manifold meaning it is multiplied many times and ways and they were instructed to be good stewards of it.

**The grace that came by Jesus Christ came while he was still on earth.**

The grace of John 1:17 did not come when Christ went back to heaven. It came while he was still on earth. The following is a partial listing of the grace that came by Jesus Christ while he was still on earth. These gifts of grace did not come into being in heaven but on earth. **It was in his so called earthly ministry** that:

\*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

\*Christ was lifted up on the cross that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

\*Christ abolished the Law of Moses.

\*Christ broke down the middle wall of partition between Jew and gentile.

\*Christ gave himself a ransom for our sins.

\*Christ died for our sins and was raised again for our justification.

\*Christ made reconciliation for sinners.

\*Christ was delivered for our offences and was raised again for our justification.

\*Christ died for the ungodly.

\*We are reconciled to God by the death of his Son.

\*Christ loved and gave himself for his church.

\*That the Law that came by Moses was nailed to the cross.

\*Christ came into the world to save sinners.

\*Christ abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.

\*Christ tasted death for every man.

\*Became flesh and blood to destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil.

\*Christ became flesh to be a merciful and faithful high priest to make reconciliation for our sins.

- \*Christ purged our conscience from dead works and died for the sins of the Old Covenant saints.
- \*Christ took away the first covenant and established a second covenant in its place.
- \*Christ offered one sacrifice for sins forever.
- \*Christ offered one offering to perfect us forever.
- \*Christ redeemed us by his blood as of a lamb without spot or blemish.
- \*Christ bore our sins in his own body on the tree.
- \*Christ suffered for sins, the just for the unjust that he might bring us to God.
- \*Christ became the propitiation for the sins of the whole world.
- \*Christ gave his flesh for the life of the world.
- \*Christ the good shepherd laid down his life for the sheep.
- \*Christ was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities.
- \*Christ's soul was made an offering for our sins.

**These are the blessings and accomplishments of Christ's earthy ministry.**

These things did not come to pass after Christ went back to heaven and sat down at God's right hand. They all came to pass when he was still living on this earth. These are the major accomplishments of Christ's earthy ministry. This is what he came to do in his earthy ministry. This why Christ became flesh and dwelt among us.

**These are the major doctrines of the church under grace.**

What you just read is what Christ did for us while he was still on earth. These are the blessings and promises he sent his apostles to preach after his resurrection. They were all sent to preach what he accomplished in his earthly ministry and we are saved by what he did for us in his earthly ministry, not his heavenly ministry.

It is ridiculous to say that Christ sent Paul and the apostles to preach just the opposite of what he accomplished while on earth. He has one ministry not two. The ministry of the apostles was to preach and explain to the world what Christ accomplished in his earthy ministry. You have just read a part list of them. His so called "heavenly ministry" is an extension of his "earthly ministry". What he did for sinners on earth he applies to them today when they believe the gospel. What he accomplished while on earth he proclaims today from heaven through the epistles of the apostles and through those he calls to preach. All of the major doctrines of salvation Paul wrote about are based directly upon what Christ did while he was still on this earth. The grace that God dispensed to Paul in Ephesians 3:1-2 to preach to the gentiles came by Jesus Christ in his public ministry and by his death on the cross at the end of his ministry on earth. The grace that came by Jesus Christ according to John 1:17 came during his public ministry on earth before he went back to heaven. We are not saved by what Christ does in heaven but what he did while still on earth. It was on earth that the law that came by Moses was abolished and it was on earth that the grace that came by Jesus Christ came into this world.

# The Righteousness of God

## Paul and The Righteousness Of God

In Romans 3:10 Paul said, **there is none righteous no not one.** That's brings up a major problem. No one can enter into the kingdom of God without righteousness.

1 Corinthians 6:9 says: **Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** If the unrighteous shall not enter into the kingdom of God how can we enter into the kingdom of God if we are not righteous? God must give us his righteousness.

Romans 3:21-22 says: **But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**

God gives us his own righteousness when we believe on Christ which makes it possible for us to enter into the kingdom of God.

## Christ and The Righteousness of God

In Matthew 5:20 Jesus said: **For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

The righteousness it takes to enter into the kingdom of God must exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees. What was their righteousness and what righteousness exceeds it? The answer is in Matthew 6:33 where Jesus said: **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

Notice the connection between the kingdom of God and the righteousness of God. They are connected here just like they are in 1 Corinthians 6:9. You must have the righteousness of God to enter into the kingdom of God. The righteousness of God is a perfect righteousness and it exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees which was of the law. Paul was a Pharisee and he had the righteousness of the law of Matthew 5:20 before he was saved, but not the righteousness of God of Mathew 6:33.

He wrote in Philippians 3:8-9: **Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:**

As a Pharisee he had the righteousness of the law, but not the righteousness of God. No one can enter the kingdom of God with the righteousness of the law. This is what Jesus meant when he said your righteousness must exceed or be different and better than the righteousness of the Pharisees. But when God saved Paul he gave him his very own righteousness which is by faith alone in Christ. From that moment on he counted the righteousness he had as a Pharisee as dung.

Both Christ and Paul preached the righteousness of God as an absolute necessity to enter into the kingdom of God but they were not the first for Moses said that Abraham was counted righteous when he believed God in Genesis 15:6.

# Judgment of The Saints

Both Christ and Paul said that Christ will judge his saints when he comes again and reward those who faithfully served him.

## Paul

**2 Timothy 4:1: I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;**

**Romans 14:10-12: But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:9-11: Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.**

**1 Corinthians 3:11-15: For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**

## Christ

**Matthew 16:27: For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**

**Luke 19:11-19: And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this *man* to reign over us. And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.**

In Matthew 25:19 it says: **After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.** To reckon with someone means to ask them to give an account of what you gave them. This is what Paul meant when he said in Romans 14:12: **So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.** What Paul wrote about the judgment seat of Christ is based upon what Christ said. They both said that when Christ comes again he will judge the saints according to their works and they both based this coming judgment of the saints on Isaiah 45:23 and Ecclesiastes 12:14 which says: **For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.**

## Justification by Faith

### Paul

God made a covenant with Abraham in Genesis 22:18 that he would bless all nations through his seed. In Galatians chapter 3 Paul defines that covenant. Galatians 3:8 says: **And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.** Verse 16 says: **Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.**

The covenant he made with Abraham was a promise that he would justify the nations through faith in Abraham's seed who is Christ. According to Galatians 3:17 that covenant is still valid and was not disannulled by the law that came years later. It says: **And this I say, *that* the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance *be* of the law, *it is* no more of promise: but God gave *it* to Abraham by promise.**

Did the Law of Moses given 430 years after God made this covenant with Abraham disannul it? No. What does this mean? Men have always been justified by faith and the Law that came after the promise was made did not change it. God did not give the Law to justify men for he already had a method to justify them when he made the covenant with Abraham in Genesis 22:18. He promised to justify the nations through faith in Christ who is Abraham's seed and not by the law he gave to Moses 430 years later. God did not give the Law to justify anyone and no one has even been justified by the law or given eternal life by the law. Galatians 3:21 says: **Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.** No one obtained the righteousness of God by the Law of Moses and the Law could not give anyone eternal life but the covenant God made with Abraham can do both and has done so since it was given including the time Christ was in the world.

### Christ

An example of a man being justified by faith in the Four Gospels

In Luke 18:10-14 Jesus gave a parable of two men; one was a self righteousness Pharisee and the other a publican and a sinner.

It says: **Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto**

**heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.**

The publican was a sinner and a law breaker. He was the complete opposite of the Pharisee. He did not keep the law and was guilty of the sins of extortion and adultery. They collected taxes for the Roman government from the Jews. In the Talmudic writings of the Jews they were reckoned as thieves, with murderers, and robbers. They were not allowed to be witnesses in any of their courts of law, nor were they to be kept company with in private homes. They were people who were destitute of good character, who were oppressive in the way they collected taxes and dissolute in their lives. According to the Jews they were associated in character with thieves and adulterers; with the profane and the dissolute.

According to the law that came by Moses he was without hope. The law that came by Moses showed no mercy to sinners like him. But he was pronounced justified and the Pharisee was not. How was he justified? By the grace that came by Jesus Christ. All he did was own up to his sins and ask God to be merciful unto him. He was not baptized nor kept the law or did any good works. All his works were bad and was hated by the Jews who kept the law. The law said I can't justify you but the grace that came by Jesus Christ said I can and it still does. Today we are justified the same way as this publican.

## **Ransom For Sin**

The word ransom literally means a price paid for the redemption of captives. In war, when prisoners are taken captive by the enemy the money demanded for their release is called a ransom. It's the price paid to set them free. Anything that releases anyone from a state of punishment, suffering or sin is called a ransom. We all need a ransom because we are all by nature captives to sin. We are sold under sin, under the condemnation of sin, and under the curse of sin. And unless we find a ransom to deliver us we will perish in hell. But, we have found a ransom. And where do we find this ransom? In the Four Gospels. In Matthew 20:28 Jesus said: ***Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.***

Paul quotes this same verse almost verbatim in 1 Timothy 2:5-6: ***For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.***

They both preached Christ's death as a ransom paid to deliver sinners from the bondage of sin, but it was Christ who preached it before Paul.

## **Repentance**

### **Christ**

**Mark 1:15: And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

**Luke 13:3: I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

**Luke 5:32: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**

Luke 24:46-47: And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

### Paul

Acts 17:30-31: And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Acts 20:20-21: *And* how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 26:20: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Romans 2:4: Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

2 Corinthians 7:8-10: For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season. Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Repentance is turning away from the thing that keeps you from being saved. The Law kept the Jews from being saved for they thought they could be saved by keeping the law. They had to repent of the law or their religion and trust Christ alone to save them. Idols kept the gentiles from being saved. The gentiles thought their idols could save them. They had to repent and turn from their idols to the true and living God to save them. Christ and all the apostles and prophets preached repentance and so should we. Paul preached repentance when he preached the gospel of grace. See Acts 20:21-24.

## Apostasy Preceding Christ's Coming

### Christ

Matthew 24:3-5: And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what *shall be* the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

**Matthew 24:10-12: And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.**

**Matthew 24:22-24: And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it* were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.**

**Mark 13:12: Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against *their* parents, and shall cause them to be put to death.**

### **Paul**

**1 Timothy 4:1-3: Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.**

**2 Timothy 3:1-8: This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.**

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-3: Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by* our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, (apostasy) and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.***

**2 Timothy 4:3-4: For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

Neither Christ nor Paul predicted a revival in the last days that precedes the second coming of Christ. They predicted a major falling away and apostasy would precede Christ's coming. We already see the falling away under way today.

# Tribulation And Persecution of Saints

## Christ

John 15:18-21: If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.

John 16:33: These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Matthew 5:10-12: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Matthew 24:9: Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

Speaking to the scribes and Pharisees Jesus said: Matthew 23:33-35: Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

Luke 21:12: But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.

Luke 21:16-17: And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

## Paul

Act 14:22: Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

1 Thessalonians 2:14-16: For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews: Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men: Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles

that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

**1 Thessalonians 2:1-4: Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone; And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.**

**2 Thessalonians 2:4-5: So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:**

**2 Timothy 3:10-12: But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.**

**Philippians 1:29: For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake.**

The Voice of Martyrs organization says more Christians have died for their faith in this current century than all other centuries of church history combined. From 33 to 1900 AD they have documented 14 million martyrs. But during this century alone they have documented cases in excess of 26 million martyrs who died for their faith in Christ. **It does not count the untold numbers who were persecuted in other ways, imprisoned, tortured, and even enslaved.**

According to the Open Doors human rights organization 215 million Christians experience high levels of persecution around the world. On its recently released World Watch List 2018, which ranks the world's 50 worst nations wherein to be Christian, 3,066 Christians were killed, 1,252 abducted, and 1,020 raped or sexually harassed on account of their faith; and 793 churches were attacked or destroyed. The Islamic world had the biggest share of this persecution; 38 of the 50 worst nations are Muslim-majority. The report further cites "Islamic oppression" is behind the "extreme persecution" that prevails in eight of the 10 worst nations. In short, the overwhelming majority of persecution that these 215 million Christians experience around the world -- especially the worst forms, such as rape and murder -- occurs at the hands of Muslims. Both Christ and Paul predicted it and we see it come to pass today.

## **Baptism**

Dispensationalists can debate this and deny it all they want to but the fact is both Christ's and Paul's converts were baptized.

## Christ

**John 4:1-2: When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)**

All of Christ's converts were baptized but his disciples baptized them for him lest any should boast and say they were baptized by Christ.

## Paul

### Lydia and her house

**Acts 16:14-15: And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.**

Notice that when she attended unto the things spoken by Paul she and her house were baptized.

### The Philippian Jailer and his house

**Acts 16:31-34: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.**

He and his family were baptized after they heard Paul speak unto them the word of God.

### The Corinthians

**Acts 18:8: And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.**

After they believed the gospel preached by Paul the Corinthians did two things: They believed and were baptized. And notice it was MANY who believed and were baptized and not a few. Paul did not baptize all of them lest they boast they were baptized by Paul according to 1 Cor. 1:15 which is why Christ's disciples baptized for him in John 4:1-2.

### The Ephesians

**Acts 19:4-5: Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

## The Reality Of Hell

Jesus Christ preached more about hell than anyone in the Bible. He mentions the word hell 15 times in the Four Gospels. Here are few examples.

**Matthew 10:28: And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

**Matthew 23:33: Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?**

**Luke 12:5: But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.**

**In Luke 16:22-24 Jesus said: And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.**

Christ preached about hell throughout his ministry and one reason is because he could see inside of hell and the torment of hell. But did you know that Paul never mentions the word hell one time in his epistles? Not even once. Paul said that lost men will suffer everlasting torment and pain (2 Thess. 1:9) but he never uses the word hell, whereas Christ uses it 15 times. If you preach about hell today you must do so out of the Four Gospels.

## **The Peace Of God**

The peace of God and Christ is one of the great blessings the church enjoys today and especially in times of tribulation and trouble. Christ and Paul both preached it but Christ preached it before Paul.

### **Paul**

**Romans 5:1: Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**

**Ephesians 2:14: For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us;***

**Philippians 4:7: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

### **Jesus**

**John 14:27: Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

**John 16:33: These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

**Acts 10:36: The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)**

**Ephesians 2:17: And (Christ) came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.**

# Heavenly Rewards

Many of the rewards and treasures of the church are heavenly. At the same time Christ said he would build his church he promised his followers heavenly rewards and heavenly treasures.

## Christ

**Matthew 5:12: Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.**

**Matthew 6:19-21: Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

**Matthew 19:21: Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go *and* sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me.**

**Luke 12:32-34: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

Throughout his time on earth Christ promised his followers heavenly treasures and heavenly rewards.

## Paul

**Colossians 3:1-2: If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.**

**Philippians 3:20: For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:**

**Colossians 1:5: For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;**

**2 Corinthians 5:1: For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**

Both Christ and Paul preached a heavenly hope, heavenly treasures and heavenly rewards. We are told that Paul's epistles are the heavenly books in the New Testament when in fact the words heaven, heavens and heavenly appears 156 times in the Four Gospels but just 30 times in the 13 epistles of Romans through Philemon. Christ preached more about heaven and hell than anyone in the Bible.

## The Two Israel's Paul And Israel

Many dispensationalists say that Israel is totally fallen, cast away and set aside and the church has no relationship with Israel. But, what does Paul say about this? Does

Paul agree with this? Did he say they are totally fallen and cast away and did he say the church has no relationship with Israel today?

In Romans 11:25 he wrote: ***For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.***

Paul said that blindness in part is happened to Israel. What does this imply? It means the blindness is not total. Some were blinded, but some were not blinded.

In Romans 11:7 he wrote: ***What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded.***

In this verse there are two groups of Jews. One group is blinded and the other is not. That is why Paul said the blindness was in part. The election in Romans 11:7 are the Jews within the nation of Israel who believe on Christ and they are a part of the elect remnant of Jews who have believed God throughout the Bible.

Paul gives a short history of the elect remnant of Jews in Romans 11:1-5 he said: ***I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.***

Throughout the Bible there has always been an elect remnant of Jews who believed and obeyed God. In Elijah's day there were 7000 Jews who believed God and did not worship Baal like the rest of the Jews in the nation of Israel. In Paul's day there was an elect remnant of Jews who believed God by believing on Christ. He calls them the election of grace in verse 5 and there were 1000's of them in Acts who believed on Christ.

This means is there are two Israels. The unbelieving apostate Jews who never believed or obeyed God and the believing Jews who have always believed and obeyed God. In Paul's day and today they are the Jews who believe on Christ. So all Israel is not blinded and or cast away or set side today. That is why it is wrong to say all Israel is fallen and cast away and set aside. There is an elect remnant of believing Jews within the church that believing gentiles are one body with.

## **Christ and Israel**

In Matthew 21:42-46 Jesus said to the Pharisees and rulers in Jerusalem: ***Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his***

**parables, they perceived that he spake of them. But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.**

These Jews are the same Jews in Romans 11 that Paul said were blinded, cast away and fallen and cut out of the olive tree. The right, power, authority and inheritance in the kingdom of God was taken from them because of their unbelief and how they persecuted and killed the prophets and his Son he sent to them. Read verses 33-40. It was taken from them and given to another nation within the nation of Israel. Who were they? The apostles and their converts who believed on Christ.

In Luke 12:31-32 Jesus said to the apostles and their converts: **But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

These are the Jews in Romans 11 Paul calls the election of grace. They were a believing nation within the unbelieving nation. Their history can be traced throughout the New Testament.

#### Their Names In the New Testament

\*They are called a **little flock** in Luke 12:32.

\*A **fruitful nation** in Matt.21:43.

\*A **holy nation** and a **chosen generation** in 1 Peter 2:9.

\*They are the **election of grace** in Romans 11:5

\*In Romans 11:16-17 they are the branches that were not broken out of the good olive tree. Paul shows us that gentile believers are grafted into the olive tree along with them and partake of the root and fatness of the tree with them.

#### In The Book of Ephesians:

\*They are the Jews who first trusted in Christ of Eph.1:12

\*They are the commonwealth of Israel of Eph.2:12 that we are made nigh to in Eph. 2:13.

\*They were the ones who were nigh to God in Eph.2:17.

\*They are ½ of the two of Eph. 2:15.

\*They are members of the new man in Eph.2:15.

\*We are reconciled together with them in one body in Eph.2:16.

\*They are the saints and household of God in Eph.2:19 that we are now fellow citizens with.

\*We are fellow heirs and members of the same body with them in Eph.3:6.

\*They are a part of the fellowship that was a mystery from the beginning of the world in Eph.3:9

These Jews are the same ones who were not blinded or cut off in Romans 11. They are the election of grace who believed God and on Christ his Son in Romans 11:6.

In Galatians 6:15-16 Paul says this about them: ***For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.***

You have just read 31 major church doctrines preached by Jesus Christ during his ministry on earth as recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I am sure there are others. You also read about the sacrificial death and resurrection of Christ which is

the gospel by which the church is saved. You have also read that Paul preached the same gospel and doctrines as Christ in his epistles. This is why he wrote: **Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.** (1 Cor. 11:1) Paul received his gospel and doctrines by revelation from Christ and his gospel and doctrines agrees with Christ's gospel and doctrines. This is why Paul did not separate his epistles from the Four Gospels or the other scriptures for he said, ***ALL Scripture is profitable for doctrine in 2 Timothy 3:16.*** There is no doubt whatsoever that the gospel and doctrines of the church are found in the Four Gospels, for after all it was in the Four Gospels that Jesus said he would build his church. It only stands to reason that if he said he would build his church in the Four Gospels then surely he had to tell us the gospel by which his church is saved and the doctrines his church should believe and obey. He did so in the Four Gospels and continued in the epistles of the Apostles. Don't make the mistake that many extremists make in saying that Christ preached one gospel and his apostles preached another or that Christ preached one set of doctrines and the apostles another.

Jesus Christ is the head of the church and the apostles were members of his body and the gospel the Head preached the apostles preached. The doctrines the Head taught is the doctrines the apostles taught. The church Christ built has one gospel and one set of doctrines and they are His gospel and His doctrines. The apostles explained them more fully in their epistles, but they are the same.

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