# The Gospel the ONLY Means of Salvation

Samuel H. Nodal

#### We Are Saved By The GOSPEL of TRUTH

For <u>I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ</u>: for <u>it is the power of God</u> <u>unto salvation to every one that believeth</u>; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (Rom. 1:16)

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye <u>heard the word of truth</u>, the <u>gospel of your salvation</u>: in whom also <u>after that ye believed</u>, <u>ye were sealed with that holy</u>
<u>Spirit of promise</u>: (Eph. 1:13)

We are saved by the <u>Gospel of TRUTH</u>, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. Notice, it's the Gospel of TRUTH by which we can judge All Lies! Notice there is <u>Only One Gospel</u>. **What Is The <u>GOSPEL</u>**? Do You Know?

Now <u>I would remind you</u>, <u>brothers</u>, of <u>the gospel I preached to you</u>, which you received, in which you stand, and <u>by which you are being saved</u>, <u>if you hold fast to the word I preached to you unless you believed in vain</u>. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that "<u>Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures</u>, that <u>he was buried</u>, <u>that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures</u>:" (1 Cor. 15:1-4) ESVS

Notice; Paul received the <u>GOSPEL</u> from Jesus Himself - (Gal. 1:11,12). This was not a Pentecostal gospel, not a Baptist gospel, not a Methodist gospel, not a Reformed gospel, not a Catholic gospel, etc... this was the Gospel of TRUTH which Paul received from the Lord Himself; <u>Not Traditions of Men!</u>

For I would have you know, brothers and sisters, that <u>the gospel which was</u> <u>preached by me is not of human invention</u>. For <u>I neither received it from man</u>, <u>nor was I taught it</u>, but <u>I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ</u>.

(Gal. 1:11,12) NASB

## The CROSS is the Foundation of the GOSPEL

The only way to the Father is <u>Jesus</u>, the only way to Jesus is <u>through the Cross</u> (the alter of God). Remember the Cross is not a piece of jewelry to adorn your appearance or body, it was a place of sacrifice and suffering where God the Father sacrificed His only Son for our sin!

If God knew of a way to pay for man's sin other than Crucifying His Only Son He certainly would have done it! (Rom. 6:23). This Clearly reminds us that our sin carries a heavy price: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life <u>in Christ Jesus</u> our Lord. The Cross is not a religion made by men, but a Blood Covenant between God and man.

For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. <u>He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross</u>. (Col. 1:19,20) NLT

For I determined not to know any thing among you, save **Jesus Christ**, and **him crucified**. (1 Cor. 2:2)

But God forbid that I should glory, save <u>in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ</u>, by whom <u>the world is crucified unto me</u>, and <u>I unto the world</u>. (Gal. 6:14)

Notice what the scripture says; Paul's **Glory is in the CROSS**; not the Resurrection, nor the Miracles that Jesus did:

For <u>the life of the body is in its blood</u>. <u>I have given you the blood on</u> <u>the altar to purify you</u>, making you right with the LORD. <u>It is the blood</u>, <u>given in exchange for a life, that makes purification possible</u>. (Lev. 17:11) NLT

How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? (Heb. 10:29) NASB

And <u>they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb</u>, and <u>by the word</u> <u>of their testimony</u>; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (Rev. 12:11)

The Message of THE CROSS (By Jimmy Swaggart)

Jesus Christ is the New Covenant. This means that He doesn't merely have the New Covenant or merely proclaim the New Covenant, but rather is the New Covenant. The meaning of this Covenant was given to the Apostle Paul, the meaning of which is the Cross of Christ, which Paul gave to us in his 14 Epistles. The Cross of Christ is the Gospel. This means that it does not merely contain the Gospel but, in fact, is the Gospel.

Paul said; "Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the Gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the Cross of Christ should be made of none effect." (1 Cor. 1:17)

In this one Scripture we are plainly and clearly told exactly what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is. It is the Cross of Christ. The New Covenant is different than any other Covenant which God has ever made with humanity. It is different in the fact that it cannot fail. While it is between God and man as all other Covenants made by God, still, it cannot fail. The reason it cannot fail is because it is all in Christ. Christ is both God and Man, so He fills both roles. Man may accept the Covenant, or he may reject the Covenant, but that does not affect the Covenant. Because it is in Christ, Paul could call it, and rightly so, "The Everlasting Covenant."

(Heb. 13:20)

Man may fail and, in fact, will fail, but The Man Jesus Christ cannot fail, because, He is GOD in a Human body. One might say and be Scripturally correct that The Message Of The Cross Is The New Covenant. It is the most complex Work ever carried out by God and, at the same time, the most simple. We have tried to bring this great Work under four headings. They are:

- 1. <u>Jesus Christ is the Source of all things</u> that we receive from God (Jn. 1:1,14,29; 14:6,20; Col. 2:10-15)
- 2. <u>The Cross of Christ is the Means</u> and the only Means by which all of these wonderful things are given to us (Rom. 6:1-14; Gal. 6:14; Col. 2:14,15)
- 3. With our Lord as the Source and the Cross as the Means, the Cross of Christ, without fail, must be the Object of our Faith (1 Cor. 1:17, 18, 23; 2:2)
- 4. With our Lord as the Source, the Cross as the Means, and the Cross the Object of our Faith, and exclusively the Object of Faith, then, the Holy Spirit, Who works exclusively within the parameters, so to speak, of the Finished Work of Christ, will work grandly on our behalf. If our Faith is placed anywhere other than the Cross of Christ, the Holy Spirit will not and, in fact, cannot function and work on our behalf. He is the One Who works on our behalf. Who Alone can make us what we ought to be, and Who works exclusively within the boundaries of the Cross of Christ (Rom. 8:1-14; Eph. 2:13-18)

People don't really understand the depth of the Cross. The Cross of Jesus Christ gave us victory over the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. The Cross gave us eternal union with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Without the Cross Jesus was still God but could not save anybody. The Cross legally opened our entrance to Heaven. Thanks to the Cross, not only are we saved and belong to God, but we have the power to overcome sin through the Holy Spirit. Jesus paid in full for our Justification, our Sanctification, and our Glorification.

There is therefore now <u>no condemnation</u> to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but <u>after the Spirit</u>. For <u>the law of the Spirit of life</u> <u>in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death</u>. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, <u>God sending his own Son</u> <u>in the likeness of sinful flesh</u>, <u>and for sin</u>, <u>condemned sin in the flesh</u>: That <u>the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us</u>, who walk not after the flesh, but <u>after the Spirit</u>. (Rom. 8:1-4)

## Finally; Paul's Warning To The Church

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness: (1 Cor. 1:18-23)

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. (Col. 2:8)

We need to understand this because satan is deceiving the world by putting forth many different gospels. Paul warn's us about the false gospels that are being spread in order to deceive the people.

# 1. False gospel of Wealth;

Which states that wealth is a sign from God that you are holy and blessed. Your wealth is a sign of your holiness. Totally contradicts the Bible (Jam. 2).

# 2. False gospel of **Pleasure**;

Which states that happiness is a sure sign that you are blessed and God is with you. Totally contradicts the Bible. Yes God shall supply all your needs, for His Glory <u>not yours</u>. God lets you enjoy food but warned you about gluttony. Take up your Cross and follow me! (Matt. 16:24-26)

### 3. False gospel of **Social Justice**;

Which looks at everyone else's Sin, but refuses to look at their own. They're deceived into thinking their right and the Bible is wrong. Calling wrong right and right wrong. (Is. 5:20-24)

### **4.** False gospel of **Globalism**;

Which states we are all God's children, we are all going to heaven. All religions and all gods lead to heaven. You can live the way you want to and still go to heaven. These are lies from the pit of hell itself. The scriptures declare that only a few people will enter into heaven, and most will end up in hell. (Matt. 7:13-29)

## 5. False gospel of the Seeker Sensitive Churches;

Where God's Truth is not proclaimed or cherished. The ministers take a church census and find out what the congregation wants to hear. That's the doctrine they teach and preach. Social pleasure is their goal, they say; "lets soften this Jesus rhetoric (the Bible) and let's all get along like one big happy family." (Psa. 92:5-7 & Prov. 1:22-33)

## **6.** False gospel of <u>Catholicism</u>;

Here is where the false doctrines of devils came into the church! Sale of indulgences; holy water; purgatory; mass in Latin; prayer to Mary, and the saints; adoration of images; kissing the feet of the pope; canonization of the deceased; celibacy of the priests; transubstantiation; the infallibility of the pope: They mentioned Jesus Christ and God but only in name, not in deeds and doctrine.

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. (Gal. 1:6-9) ESVS

If there come any unto you, and <u>bring not this doctrine</u>, <u>receive him not into</u> <u>your house</u>, <u>neither bid him God speed</u>: <u>For he that biddeth him God speed</u> <u>is partaker of his evil deeds</u>. (2 John 10,11)