

# The Gospel Appeal To The Common People Sunday AM 08/14/22

## Introduction:

Scripture- ***“Therefore David himself calls Him ‘Lord’; how is He then his Son?” And the common people heard Him gladly.” (Mark 12:37)***

Jesus preached to all kinds of people, the rich and famous. He spoke of the difficulty the rich would have in being saved.

***“And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” (Matthew 19:24)***

But it was among the common, poor people Jesus spent most of His time. When we read of the great multitudes following Him, we are reading of those common people. The rich were more interested in their wealth but the common people were more interested in Jesus words. Why was it appealing to them?

### I) It Is A Free Gospel

#### A) It was within their reach.

1. Have you ever been interested in some thing but you know it is out of your price range.
  - a. New car, or painting, house, etc.
  - b. There are certain things that the old adage is true “If you have to ask how much, you can’t afford it.”
2. The common people understood the Gospel was within their means.
  - a. When the disciples of John came to Jesus to inquire if He was the Messiah.

***“Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.” (Matthew 11:4-5)***

- b. Jesus Himself lived a poor man's life.

***“And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” (Matthew 8:20)***

**B) The Apostles did not get rich preaching the Gospel but in one sense “gave it away, without charge.”**

- 1. Today the Gospel is free to anyone who will hear it.
- 2. Don't say, I can't afford the Gospel.

## **II) It Is a Plain Gospel**

**A) The Gospel of Christ is not complex.**

- 1. I am not a deep thinker or a complex person. Most people think in simple terms.
- 2. Any time some body is making the Gospel complex they are either over thinking it or mis-using it.

**B) The uneducated can understand it.**

***“The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.” (Psalms 119:130)***

- 1. In the first century the common people made up the majority of the converts.

***“And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)***

- 2. Today in our preaching and teaching we need to keep it simple.

## **III) It Is An Equalizing Gospel**

**A) Everybody is subject to the same Gospel.**

1. First century was a time of inequality. Romans were treated differently than non-Romans; slaves treated differently than freemen, Jews treated differently than Gentiles.
2. Even the disciples of Christ thought in terms of being greatest versus being the least.

***“But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”***  
***(Matthew 23:11-12)***

**B) Today everybody is subject to the same Gospel.**

1. I can not preach one Gospel to one group of people and another to another group of people.
2. We are all equal sinners in need of the Gospel of Christ.

***“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.”*** ***(James 4:10)***

**IV) It Is a Compensating Gospel**

**A) It offers a reward to those who are obedient to it.**

1. Line in Field of Dreams - - “What’s in it for me?” Might be in the minds of a lot of people as they hear the Gospel.
2. What advantage do I receive? What is my reward?

**B) The faithful are rewarded.**

***“Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven”***  
***(Matthew 5:12)***

1. Keep in mind your reward is ultimately future in scope.

***“Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which***

***endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.” (John 6:26-27)***

2. What is in it for me and you? Heaven!

**V) It is An Encouraging Gospel**

**A) The poor people of Jesus’ day needed encouragement.**

1. These were the poor and the down trodden.
2. At times in life we need encouragement.

***“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)***

**B) The Gospel is there to encourage us**

1. Paul, like the brethren at Corinth, faced many discouraging circumstances. But notice Paul’s words of encouragement.

***“For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. **9** Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, **10** who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us, **11** you also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift granted to us through many.” (2 Corinthians 1:8-11)***

2. Later on Paul comes back to this subject.

***“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. **17** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, **18** while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)***

3. There may be times we get discourage and feel like giving up, but we know we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

## VI) It is A Comforting Gospel

### A) For those who are sorrowing in their heart

1. Think of the poor widow, who had lost her only son (**Luke 7.11ff**), Jairus, whose daughter was dying (**Mark 5.22ff**).
2. We live in a world of sorrow and pain. A lot of people don't know where to turn for comfort.

### B) The Gospel can give us comfort.

***“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4***

1. Paul was sharing his comfort with others by preaching the Gospel.
2. The Gospel gives us hope. When hope is gone there is only despair. With hope we can continue on.

***“But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)***

***“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)***

## VII) It Is a Powerful Gospel

### A) The lost are saved through the preaching of the Gospel.

***“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to***

***salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”***  
***(Romans 1:16)***

1. Man is lost due to sin but he is saved by the Gospel.
2. The preaching of the Gospel is explained in other passages in the Bible.

**B) The ability to change man’s eternal destiny is powerful.**

1. One has to receive the Gospel and obey it in order to receive its blessings.
2. Many will be lost because they rejected the Gospel, or they did not obey it, or they turned aside from it.

**Conclusion:**

The Gospel meets your needs today. Why not obey it today?