

When I evangelize on the streets and in public, I speak to many people who have never heard the Gospel. They know of Jesus and religion but don't really know what the Gospel means. A lot of people get confused because of all of the denominations and different kinds of churches. When you go to a church website, you read their beliefs on what they believe, and it could be hard to understand for someone new. So I wanted to write a simple summary of what the Gospel is...

Gospel Definition

Gospel means good news, so you can expect the gospel to be good. It is the story of redemption through Jesus for mankind. Jesus preached about the Kingdom of God coming.

Our Sinful Nature

We as humans are not perfect. We see it every day in the pain and suffering all around us. We see a fallen world around us, and most of us know that it is getting darker by the year. Satan has tried to make this world into his image and not God's. The consequences of sin are in front of us everyday when you watch the news.

Our sinful nature originated with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. They disobeyed, which led sin to enter the world. When sin entered the world, we became people who naturally had sinful desires. We are not bent to do the right thing, but the wrong thing. By looking at current events and everything happening around us, we can see the repercussions of sin everywhere. When babies are born and they exit the womb, they cry because of being born into sin. We all have a sinful nature, and because of this, we are condemned to death. There is nothing we can do to save ourselves. We can't become a better person in hopes of escaping judgment.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." ~ Romans 6:23

God's Plan of Redemption

God loves his people, but because of sin, we have been distanced from God, we no longer live in harmony with him as Adam and Eve did in the garden. God wants to redeem us, and our redemption comes through a sacrifice. He sent his son Jesus Christ to live as a man on Earth. Jesus was the second Adam.

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."
~John 1:14

The word is God, and he became flesh on earth in order to bring redemption for all mankind. Jesus was 100% God, and 100% man, he experienced life as we do, but also was perfect and sinless. It says in Hebrews 4:15 .. "one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."

Because of Jesus' perfect life, he was able to minister here on earth and give us instructions on how to live, but more than that, while on earth, Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

"He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." ~ 1 John 3:8

Jesus died for our sins while on earth. He was accused and crucified, although he was perfect, and when he did, he took on himself the sins of the world and the wrath of God. What greater love than that sacrifice? ❤️

God is just and does not let sins happen without punishment, but Jesus took that wrath on himself. He died in our place, we should have to experience that judgment, but we don't have to because of his sacrifice.

Jesus died for us before we even accepted the sacrifice he made for us. He loved us and those who nailed Him on the cross.

Resurrection

Jesus did not stay dead. He rose from the dead after three days. His grave was empty. This was one of the greatest miracles in world history!

"That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures" ~ 1 Corinthians 15:4

As Jesus said during his earthly ministry, and as prophesied in the Old Testament, even as God had told Adam and Eve after sinning, death was defeated. We can now be free from sin. The power of sin was defeated when Christ rose from the dead.

After Jesus rose from the grave, over 500 people saw Jesus. Jesus appeared to the disciples and many others, showing that what he said was true, that he would die but be raised after three days. So many eyewitness accounts!

Our Response

After Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his disciples, what did he say?

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." ~ Matthew 28:19,20

Jesus instructed them to go and share the Good News of the Gospel all over the world. The same command stands for us today. Our salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ. We are dead in our sins. It is by putting our faith and believing in Jesus, who came to earth, lived a perfect life and

dies for our sins we can be saved. We read about the missions work that takes place after Jesus' ascension, Paul tells one-man

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.
~Acts 16:31

Our relationship with God may not be currently like the closeness Adam and Eve had while walking with God, but our relationship has been restored. When we accept the Good News of the Gospel and believe in Jesus, we are now in a personal relationship with him. He knows our hearts and our stories, and we see again and again in scripture how God works in our lives, how he loves us, and how we are his children.

God's love for mankind and his promise of redemption to Adam and Eve resulted in God sending his son Jesus to die so we can have eternal life. Jesus' death on the cross was the exchange of a perfect man taking on the sins of the world and dying for us. The Gospel is more than rules to follow or a book to read but a relationship with the living God. God is not a god who is legalistic but instead loves us and gives us grace and mercy.

God does not want us to sin. He wants us to walk in accordance with the scripture and to exemplify him in our lives. He loves us, has created us, and works in us every day. He is deserving of our glory.

Eternal Judgement

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." ~ John 14:6

When we are saved through Jesus Christ, we get to have eternal life in heaven with him. What a glorious day that will be!

When we reject Jesus Christ and the Gospel, we make a decision to be separated from God. He will not force his love on us. We are separated from him for eternity.

"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." ~ Revelations 20:15

Deliverance & Healing

Besides Christ dying for sins and giving us eternal salvation, he also paid for our deliverance & healing. He saved our spirits but also saves our soul & body.

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed" ~ Luke 4:18

Deliverance & Healing is also part of the Full Gospel of Christ. By his stripes, we are healed!

* You can read more about Deliverance on my website.

