

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

Introduction to series: What it means to believe on the Lord Jesus and how Christ must open our understanding of the scriptures if we are to understand the gospel.

Know God: Knowing God is essential if we want to be saved. It is also essential if we are to understand the gospel: God is a Spirit, There is only One God who is known as the Father in Creation, the Son in Redemption and the Holy Spirit in Regeneration. He only has one name which is the family name of God - His name is Jesus,

KNOW THE GOSPEL (Good News)

Sadly enough, Not everyone knows the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Some Think John 3:16 is the Gospel

Joh 3:16 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.

The gospel is more than just believing that God loves you - You must know, believe and obey the whole gospel.

Some Corinthians Believed in Jesus but not in the Resurrection

1Co 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

1Co 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

1Co 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.

Some Galatians Believed in Jesus But thought you had to be circumcised to be saved

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

Gal 1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Gal 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

THREE MAIN POINTS: Today, I will tell you (1) What is the gospel, (2) How we obey the gospel, (3) What is the objective of the Gospel.

I. WHAT IS THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST?

1Co 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. (**Saved if not neglected**).

“For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: (and then walks away without taking care of the imperfections he sees. He will usually forget to do anything about it. (Ja 1:23)

1Co 15:3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins** according to the scriptures;

Old Testament scriptures which spoke of his death, burial and resurrection

“...they pierced my hands and my feet....They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture (Psalms 22:16-18),

“He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.” Isa 53:5

“...he shall divide the spoil with the strong because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” (Isa 53:12)

1Co 15:4 And that **he was buried**, and that **he rose again** the third day according to the scriptures (He didn't swoon or just faint - He died AND was buried)

“He made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.” (Isa 53:9)

“...he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, (Isa 53:10)

We must believe and obey the Whole Gospel: Death, Burial and Resurrection.

II HOW YOU CAN OBEY THE GOSPEL? Need slide

By following the Pattern of the Death, Burial and Resurrection given in the scriptures. This pattern illustrates the three instruments necessary for salvation. They are: (1) Repentance or forsaking of sin which represents the Death of our old life; (2) Baptism in Water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ. Baptism is a Burial which illustrates the covering or washing away of sin; and (3) Receiving the Holy Spirit with confirmation of speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance - That is we Rise to Walk in Newness of Life

This pattern is evident in the (1) Old Testament Tabernacle, In Christ's command to Nicodemus that he must be born again of the water and spirit if he is to enter the Kingdom of God. (John 3:5) And, finally, it is evident in what the Apostles taught did in the early church.

1. The Old Tabernacle and Instruments Thereof:

Exo 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Exo 25:9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

- a. **Located in the midst of the congregation.** Christ's Holy Spirit is also in His Church:

Mat 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

b. The Instruments of salvation:

Heb 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by **the blood** of Jesus,
Heb 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

- **Brazen Altar - Repentance** is an altar of sacrifice and the shedding of blood - Death of Christ (We must present our bodies a living sacrifice)

Heb 10:21 And having an high priest over the house of God;

Heb 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

- **The Brazen Laver** is an altar of inspection (mirrors) (**Baptism in Jesus name**)

Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised).

- We hold fast to the profession of our faith and draw near to God's presence by the three altars in the Holy Place
 - i. Altar of Shewbread (Bible)
 - ii. Candlestick (Quickening of the Holy Ghost)
 - iii. Altar of Incense (Prayers of saints)
 - iv. Confirmation of acceptance of the sacrifice was the shekinah glory of God (Fire & Tongues - Acts 2)

2. Specific New Testament Scriptures about following the pattern:

a. Repentance from Sins is a Death.

Rom 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

Rom 6:2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

b. Baptism in Water

Rom 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

c. Resurrection - Raised Up

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

d. Also Known as Baptism of the Holy Ghost

Mar 1:8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

e. Newness of Life = Is the Born Again Experience

Joh 3:5 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.

3. How the Disciples Obeyed Christ's Great Commission

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

- Name singular
- God who was revealed as (1) the Father in Creation, (2) Son in Redemption and (3) Holy Ghost in Regeneration
- His name is Jesus

a. They Baptized in the only name given.... (Jesus)

Act 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

- Jews, in the name of Jesus Christ on the Day of Pentecost Acts 2:38
- Samaritans, in the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 8:16)
- Gentiles, in the name of the Lord (Acts 10:48)
- Disciples of John at Ephesus were re-baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 19:5)

b. These also spoke in Tongues when they received the Holy Spirit

A Confirmation of Believers (Series Text)

Heb 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

A Confirmation from the Lord

Heb 2:4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

Mar 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Joh 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:

Joh 15:27 And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

III. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GOSPEL

1. To save us in the end - When Christ comes for his church.

1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

- He that endures until the end, the same shall be saved
- Those who hold fast (Not like who rejected the resurrection or the Galatians who fell from Grace. But, those who obey the gospel and stand firm in it.

Claim the Blood of Jesus - Heb 10:21 And having an high priest over the house of God;

Fellowship with the Church you're baptized into - Heb 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Spirit of Christ to help us Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)

2. **Saved to Serve:**

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

CONCLUSION: You must Know, Believe, Obey and Continue in the Whole Gospel of Jesus Christ if you want to be saved. When we Repent and are Baptized in Jesus Name we receive remission of sins and the Promise of the Holy Ghost which is "Christ in you the hope of glory." We rise to walk in newness of life which is the Born Again Experience confirmed by speaking in tongues. If we fulfill the gospel of Jesus Christ we will be saved in the end. We are saved to serve, But, how should we live this new life? We'll save that for our next lesson.

