

Gospel

by

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The Gospel, or Good News, of Jesus Christ.

Every person living on the earth should be exposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This Gospel, or Good News, should be preached, declared, and published for all the world to see. The truth of the Gospel can change a life.

**“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world
for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”**

Matthew 24:14.

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The Gospel

There is much that is misunderstood about the word “Gospel.” Many people equate it with a particular religion. Others may associate it with witnessing or attempting to force people to convert to a religion or a belief system.

The word “Gospel” has been maligned and given an unjustified negative interpretation by many. In fact, the real meaning of The Gospel, is the exact opposite of what many people believe it to be! It means “Good News,” and should carry very positive feelings and sentiments with it. It is something to **be happy about** and **rejoice over!**

The Gospel message is the revelation and the teaching of Jesus Christ, which is Good News for all of mankind who will accept it. **Jesus Christ is the only hope for all of mankind, who live in this lost and dying world!**

“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.” Matthew 18:11. “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Luke 19:10. Jesus came to restore sinners back to right relationship with God.

Believing on Jesus Christ is essential to escaping from the eternal punishment in Hell, that is coming for all who reject Christ’s Finished Work on The Cross, which He accomplished by shedding **His Precious Blood**.

Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Sin causes us to be separated from God. Jesus Christ paid the ultimate price to redeem us from the penalty of sin into right standing with God. *See* Hebrews 9:22-28.

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree: **That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**” Galatians 3:13-14.

Jesus Christ is the only way that we can receive right relationship and right standing with The Heavenly Father.

We Need To Desire And Be Focused On Christ

Many people do not have a proper love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. He is not some fictional figure or person. Jesus is real, and He longs to be sought diligently, to be respected, and be discovered by each of us.

“And thou shalt **love the LORD thy God** with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:” Deuteronomy 6:5-6.

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:2.

We need His invitation to be drawn to God. Jesus is the Son of God. He desires us to love Him and the Father. You should have a **love relationship** with God the Father, with Jesus Christ, and with the precious Holy Spirit. **We come to the Father only through Jesus Christ, and we come to Christ only through the drawing** by the Father, **by the working of the precious Holy Spirit**. “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6. “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6:44. “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 15:26. “...no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.” 1 Corinthians 12:3.

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” John 8:12. **“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”** James 4:8a. **Ask the Lord to draw you to Him.** Run after Him. “Draw me, we will run after thee...” Song of Solomon 1:4. “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.” Psalm 42:1.

Therefore **let our highest resolve be to meditate upon the life, attributes, and person of Jesus Christ.** Let us hunger, thirst, and pant after Christ. If we want to understand fully Christ’s words, we must strive to have our **life be so fashioned after Christ that we are imitators of Christ.** We must be “...**followers of God, as dear children...**” (Ephesians 5:1). We honor Christ when we imitate and follow Him. He is our role model to pattern our lives after. **We can do nothing apart from Him,** but we can do **all things through Christ.**

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: **for without me ye can do nothing.**” John 15:4-5.

“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.” John 15:7-8.

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” Philippians 4:13.

Paul was so focused on knowing Christ, that he said, “For I **determined not to know any thing** among you, **save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.**” 1 Corinthians 2:2. We should likewise be so focused on looking unto Christ and knowing Him, that nothing else distracts or matters. **“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:** for I *am* God, **and there is none else.**” Isaiah 45:22.

Christ Is Our Hope

“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:** Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; **that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:**” Colossians 1:27-28.

“...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21.

Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. Apart from Him, no one can be saved from eternal separation from God because of their sins. He is the Savior and Redeemer of all who would call upon His Name and follow after Him. He is seeking people who would truly believe and trust Him for every area of their lives. The Gospel, or good news, is a free gift through Christ to all who would come and drink and partake of it.

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for *that which* is not bread? and your labour for *that which* satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; **and I will make an everlasting covenant with you,** *even* the sure mercies of David.” Isaiah 55:1-3.

Jesus wants us to come to Him now and receive of His wonderful free gift. Don’t put it off another moment. **“...behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation...”** 2 Corinthians 6:2.

“...**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...**” Acts 16:31. “**That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 10:9-10.

“And this is the record, that God hath **given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.** These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**” 1 John 5:11-13.

“**Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses,** let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **Looking unto Jesus** the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:1-2.

“For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence **to the full assurance of hope unto the end:** That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.” Hebrews 6:10-12.

The Greatest Gift - Our Redemption Through Jesus Christ

“Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles **the unsearchable riches of Christ;**” Ephesians 3:8.

“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come **he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith;** and that not of yourselves: ***it is the gift of God:*** Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:4-10.

The wonderful value of having a true relationship with Christ! Nothing else compares. We should all ask, like David did, “What is man, that thou art mindful of him?...” Psalm 8:4. We are nothing. He is everything!

The grace that God shows us through Jesus Christ is *truly amazing*. Our minds can not fully comprehend the extent of the unsearchable riches that He has given us through Christ. It is *truly a gift*, and it is *not earned*.

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places,*” Ephesians 1:17-20.

We as a society have lost touch with the real value of Christ's finished and completed work on the cross. The price He paid on Calvary, to extend the free gift of Salvation to us, is priceless. No one can buy it, for it is freely given by Christ. He gave His life for us, that all may be saved who truly trust in and believe upon Him.

Nothing, and no one, can compare to Christ! Everything else is meaningless in life. Without Christ we are nothing, and woefully undone. Apart from Him, our end will be far worse than anything we can imagine.

We must strive to be apprehended by Christ. We must seek to properly hunger after, honor, and worship Him.

“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: That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.” Philippians 3:8-15.

The Essential Jesus

Jesus Christ is essential to your well being! He wants us to prosper and be in health, and for us to spiritually prosper as well. We can only know Him by spending time in His Presence, gleaning and learning from Him. His Word is His testament to us. We should read and study His Word to know more about Him and His ways.

Before we can walk in the many benefits that come with a saving knowledge and relationship with Christ, we must grab hold of the essential truths about Him. We must be so convinced that Jesus Christ is real, and that He is Who He says He is. For if we doubt anything about Jesus Christ, we are calling God and Christ a liar. Either everything He says in His Word (The Holy Bible) is true, or it is not. **It is impossible for God to lie.** Only you can doubt that He is truly real, alive, and concerned about us today. Do you believe Him or not? Your condition for eternal life depends on how you decide to answer this important, essential question.

“God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” Numbers 23:19.

“Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath: That by two immutable things, **in which *it was impossible for God to lie***, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.” Hebrews 6:17-20.

“In hope of eternal life, **which God, that cannot lie**, promised before the world began;” Titus 1:2.

It is up to each of us to decide if we will believe Christ or reject Him. For to reject Him is to reject the Father. To accept Him is to be accepted of the Father. God delights in those who do believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.

“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 3:36.

“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 6:40.

“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 5:24.

“...**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...**” Acts 16:31.

“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.” Romans 10:8-11.

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, **if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.**” 1 John 5:13-15.

Trust is essential to being believed. We must trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not unto our own understanding. Without Him we are nothing! We are not righteous apart from Christ and His righteousness. Trust is a two-way street—we need to trust the Lord and He needs to trust us also. We demonstrate to Him that we are trustworthy by our fruit of obedience to His Laws and His Word, keeping His commandments.

“**Trust in the LORD, and do good;** so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.” Psalm 37:3-9.

“**Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.** Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.” Proverbs 3:5-8.

Our hope in Jesus Christ, is the one thing we can be sure of in life. Let us not waver in our belief, trust, and hope in the Lord Jesus. “**And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**” Romans 5:5.

Confessing Our Sins

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” 1 John 1:8-10.

Sin is separation from God. We need to confess and get rid of all penalty for our sins through Jesus Christ, immediately upon realizing that we have sinned. The problem is that our conscience can become so seared with sin that we fail to timely realize conviction for our sins. We need God’s help through the Holy Spirit to remind and convict us of all our sins on an immediate basis. Unrepented sins can cause much damage to us.

“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. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:** Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.” John 16:7-11.

The glory of a good man or woman is the testimony of a good conscience. “That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 1:31. If your conscience is at peace, you will never lack joy. A good conscience is able to endure many things, and is even cheerful when it is facing adversity, but an evil or seared conscience is forever fearful and troubled. “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but **whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.**” Proverbs 29:25. You will rest peacefully and sweetly if your heart condemns you not. “**Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.**” 1 John 3:21-22. Our heart will condemn us if we have unrepented sin. But if our heart condemns us not, we can have confidence or faith toward God, and anything that we ask in His Name, He shall do for us. Evil people never experience true happiness, nor do they enjoy inward peace. “*There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.*” Isaiah 57:21.

“**With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**” Psalm 119:10-11.

The Word of God is a natural protection against sinning. We need to displace all the carnal, fleshly stuff that we ingest each day, and instead fill ourselves up with Scripture and godly teachings. We can push out the “junk” with the good Word of God. We truly “are what we eat.” If we ingest good spiritual food, then our whole body is pure, “**Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.**” Proverbs 30:5. “**Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.**” Isaiah 26:3.

People can get angry at times. Anger blocks us from thinking and reasoning properly. Anger in itself is not sin, but can give rise to sin, if we are not careful. “**Be ye angry, and sin not:** let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.” Ephesians 4:26-27. We must be careful in our anger not to sin. “**Awake to righteousness, and sin not;** for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak *this* to your shame.” 1 Corinthians 15:34. If we sin, we must confess our sins quickly and repent (turn away) from them, being clothed in contrition before God through Christ Jesus. Our sins are then washed away through Jesus’ blood, and they are remembered no more by God.

Believing A Lie

The devil is real and wants us to believe lies about Jesus Christ and God. He is trying to get us to be ignorant of his devices and also of the Word of God. If we deny that the devil exists, we have allowed ourselves to become deceived by him, for even Jesus in the Bible talks about the fact that Satan exists. The devil would like nothing more than for you to deny that he exists, then he can work against you and be unobstructed.

Ignorance of the Word of God is essential for the devil to triumph over a person. For the devil knows that we will become armed with faith, and dangerous to his kingdom, when we leave ignorance, and walk instead in God's truth contained in His Holy Word. We have been warned not to be ignorant of the enemy's devices:

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." 2 Corinthians 2:11.

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge..." Hosea 4:6.

The enemy will try to get all of us to **either doubt or forget God's benefits** through Christ. The devil wants to substitute a lie for God's Truth, to sabotage our proper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Be Ye Holy

"...**Be ye holy; for I am holy.**" 1 Peter 1:16.

You need to continually renew your mind and purify your heart, so that sin has no sway over you, and has no place in your mind or life. You must crucify your flesh, and be totally led by the Spirit of God in all your ways.

"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.**" Romans 12:1.

There exists a **call to be holy** to all believers in Jesus Christ. "...Be ye holy; for I am holy." and also "**Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.**" Romans 12:21.

I Trust The Lord

Once I received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, the below verse has been most important in helping to keep me focused and grounded in my walk of faith throughout life. The Holy Spirit has used this and other verses to keep my mind set on Christ, so that my faith and devotion to Him would not waver, be misdirected, or be stolen.

"**Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**" Proverbs 3:5-6.

Jesus Christ is seeking people who are devoted, and will faithfully love Him with all their heart, mind, and soul.

I am reminded that everything I have and need comes through Jesus Christ. I am not in control of the universe, but rather I'm a vessel that He chooses to use to accomplish things. It is up to me to be yielded to the leading of His Holy Spirit, so that I can properly do everything for His Name's Sake. It is my duty to always glorify God. God alone is my source of strength and power, and everything I have from Him comes by grace, through Christ.

He showed me that when I truly confess the statement: “**I Trust The Lord,**” then I need not worry about cares of this world, but rather in all my ways I am acknowledging Him as Lord over my life and over everything else. When I confess “I Trust The Lord,” I am renouncing the self-importance I thought my life had, and instead I am speaking truthfully in faith my belief that **He Is Lord** over all. **I am nothing... He is everything.** See John 3:30.

I believe that the biggest enemy that a person faces is their own pride, self-importance, and faith in their ability to reason things, understand things, and figure things out using their own knowledge. Beware of the wisdom of the world and its lies. **Apart from God we are nothing!** God alone is the only source for all wisdom and truth.

Unity And Purity Are Essential To See God Move And Also For Him To Continue To Move

The goal of every Christian is to have both **unity** and **purity** working in and throughout our lives on a continual basis, so that God can use “our vessels” to reveal His Glory to others. God desires clean vessels to use to reveal His Glory. That is why we must continually ask Him to purify us and to fill us with the Righteousness of Christ. God wants to cleanse us from all sin, and use our lives as an example to set others free. God chooses the foolish things of the world to confound the mighty. He cleans up vessels for His use. Desire to be a vessel used by God.

“But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, *yea*, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.” 1 Corinthians 1:27-29. God will choose who to use. **“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”** 2 Corinthians 4:7.

God delights in taking people who are flawed, and who are despised, rejected, and looked down upon by others, to reveal His Love through, to the world. God loves those with a humble, pure, and contrite heart, who desire to see His Will accomplished. He gives true Believers in Christ the wonderful gift of Holy Ghost, The Holy Spirit, to dwell inside of them, as a deposit or guarantee of God’s Salvation through Jesus Christ, in whom they trust.

“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.” Ephesians 1:13-14. **“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”** Ephesians 4:30. **Humility** is the benchmark, or gold standard, of a Spirit-led Believer in Christ. When you are walking in **true love toward God and your fellow man or woman**, you will not be able to walk in disunity, for love is the foundation for **unity**.

“BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, **and forget not all his benefits**: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” Psalm 103:1-5.

“Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.” Psalm 37:4-5. God wants us to **experience Him!**

There are so many benefits to following after Christ and truly believing in Him. I long to spend eternity getting to know Him, and discovering the Heavenly Father. Why would anyone want to spend eternity apart from Him?