

What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is becoming increasingly vague and morphed into something which is completely opposite from the Gospel taught in the Bible. It will do our hearts good to reflect on the grandeur of the message God has given as the remedy for our desperate situation.

The Outline

1. The depth of the problem

The nature and extent of our sin – it's depth; our guilt in Adam, our blindness to truth
The greatness of the God we've offended
The sentence pronounced

2. The greatness of the remedy

What that remedy is
How the remedy is applied to us individually

The Depth of the Problem – The Nature and Extent of our Sin—It's Depth

Key Passages

Romans 1:18 – 32; Romans 3:9-19

Additional Passages

Genesis 6:5; Psalm 58:3-5; Proverbs 21:4; Isaiah 1:2-6; Isaiah 6:5; Isaiah 57:20; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Jeremiah 30:12; Nahum 3:19; Matthew 15:18; Matthew 23:27, 28; Ephesians 2:1-3; 4:17-19; 2 Peter 2:1-20; Jude 5-19

The Depth of the Problem – The Nature and Extent of our Sin—Our Guilt in Adam

Key Passages

Romans 5:12ff; I Corinthians 15:22

Adam was our representative at the very beginning. His choice made us all guilty. All human beings are initially in Adam with him as their representative. Those who remain “in Adam” have his guilt imputed to them and are ultimately lost.

Christ is the representative of another group of people. Those who are “in Christ” have His righteous obedience imputed to them and are saved.

The Depth of the Problem – The Nature and Extent of our Sin—Blindness and Slavery

Key Passages

1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 4:3,4; 2 Timothy 3:7; Acts 28:26, 27; Psalm 107:10, 11
2 Peter 2:19, 20; Hebrews 2:15; Romans 6:16, 20; Romans 7:21-24

The Depth of the Problem – The Greatness of the God We’ve Offended

God is infinitely powerful, knowledgeable and wise. He is perfect in righteousness, love, justice, purity and holiness. There is no darkness, impurity or unrighteousness in Him.

Key Passages

Leviticus 11:45; Numbers 14:18; Numbers 23:19; Job 38- 40:2; Psalm 18:30; Proverbs 2:12; Isaiah 40:12-31; Isaiah 55:8,9; Daniel 9:14; Habakkuk 1:13; Romans 1:32; James 1:13; 1 Peter 1:15, 16; 1 John 1:5

The Depth of the Problem – The Sentence Pronounced

Key Passages

Deuteronomy 28:15-20; Isaiah 59:2; Psalm 9:17; Psalm 130:3; Proverbs 16:25; John 3:36; Romans 1:32; Romans 3:19; 6:23; Galatians 3:10; Rev 6:16,17; Rev 16:1, Rev 19:15

The Greatness of the Remedy – Introduction

Gospel – The Power of God

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation – Romans 1:16

New Birth brought about through its power -- 1 Peter 1:23

Gospel – Must Get it Right!

Galatians 1:6-9

Gospel – Problem Solved

How does God maintain righteousness and yet forgive iniquity?

Romans 3:25,26; Exodus 34:7

The Greatness of the Remedy—What That Remedy Is

Substitution – The Great Exchange

Key Words – propitiation, atonement

Key Passages

Isaiah 53:5; Galatians 1:4; 3:13; 2 Corinthians 5:14; 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18;

1 Corinthians 1:30; Philippians 3:9; Romans 3:21; Romans 10:3; Hebrews 9:28

Justification – Declared Righteous

Key Passages:

Acts 13:39; Romans 3:24; Romans 4:5,24; Romans 5:9-11; Galatians 2:16; 3:11; James 2:24

The Greatness of the Remedy – Out of Adam and Into Christ

Key Passages:

Romans 5:15-20; Romans 8:1; 1 Corinthians 15:22; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:3, 4, 7, 11, ; 2:5-7; 2:10

Do a study of what you have in Christ and your identification with Him in His death and resurrection.

Examples: Galatians 2:19, 20; Galatians 5:24; 6:14; Romans 7:1-6; Romans 6:2-14; Colossians 3:1-4 as well as the passages listed under Key Passages in this section.

The Greatness of the Remedy – Intended for Daily Christian Life

Key Passages:

Galatians 3:1-4; Colossians 2:20-23; Titus 3:4-7

The Greatness of the Remedy – How it's Applied to Individuals

Repentance and Faith – Two sides of the same coin

Key Passages

Isaiah 55:7; Mark 1:15; Acts 20:21

Repentance is the giving up hope, trust and confidence in everything else while turning in faith to Christ as the only hope and remedy for our sin. God commands all men everywhere to repent. (Acts 17:30)

Additional Passages:

Acts 10:43; John 3:18; Ephesians 2:8, 9; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9,13; 1 John 3:23; 5:13

Scriptural words: call (Romans 10:9), believe (Acts 16:31), receive (John 1:12)

The New Birth

Key Passages:

Ezekiel 36:26; Jeremiah 31:33; John 3; 1 Peter 1:23; Titus 3:5; 2 Corinthians 4:4-6;
John 1:12, 13

We need to remember that salvation is of the Lord (Jonah 2:9). He draws people to himself (John 6:44), opens their eyes (2 Corinthians 4:4-6), grants repentance (Acts 11:18, 2 Timothy 2:25), opens hearts (Acts 16:14) and gives faith (Eph 2:8,9; 2 Thess 3:2).

The Greatness of the Remedy – Its Permanence

John 10:25-29; Romans 8:28-39

The Greatness of the Remedy – It's the Only One and is Needed by Everyone

John 14:6

Acts 4:12

Romans 10:13-17 Note the sequence here.

Some examples of the Gospel Presented and at Work

Luke 18:9-14 The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:18ff Parable of Rich Young Ruler

John 3 Jesus' witness to Nicodemus

John 4 Jesus' witness to woman at the well

Acts 17 Paul's sermon on Mars Hill