

Introduction

In Galatians, the terms ‘gospel’ or ‘preach the gospel’ are used fourteen times. While Paul spends much of the letter discussing the implications of ‘the gospel,’ he does so assuming his audience in the Galatian churches understand what that term means.

- The term we translate as ‘gospel’ literally means “good news” or “to proclaim good news.” In the Greco-Roman world, ‘gospel’ was used in relation to news of military victories and imperial proclamations.
- In the Bible, the term becomes associated with the facts about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and even came to refer to the specific historical accounts of these events written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Main Point: The Gospel is the “_____” of God’s saving work in Christ that changes our standing before Him, transforms our lives, and connects us to a purpose greater than ourselves.

What is the Content of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Mark 1:1—The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

(1) The Gospel centers on the _____ of Jesus Christ. (It is ‘the good news’ about or concerning Jesus)

- The name *Jesus* is Greek for the Hebrew name _____ (‘The Lord Saves’ or ‘The Lord is Salvation’). He was from Nazareth and lived in the early 1st c. AD in the Roman province of Judea.
- In the Bible, Jesus presents Himself as and is acknowledged by others to be the _____ (“Messiah”).
John 4:24-25—25 The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” 26 Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”
- In the Bible, Jesus presents Himself as and is acknowledged by others to be _____ incarnate.
John 8:58-59—58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him...
John 20:28-29—28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

(2) The Gospel centers on the _____ of Jesus Christ.

- Jesus taught God’s truth, performed miracles, and fulfilled over 300 Old Testament prophecies throughout His earthly life and ministry.
Luke 7:18-21—17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 18 *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”* 21 And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”
- After roughly three years of ministry, Jesus was _____.
Mark 10:33—“See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles.
Matt. 27:35—And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.
- On the third day following His crucifixion, Jesus _____ from death.
Luke 24:5b-7—“Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”
John 20:27—Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

Key Point: The _____ facts of the Gospel tell us that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, who lived a sinless life, was crucified, and rose again from the dead.

What Are the Implications of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Eph. 1:7—In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to...his grace,

- (1) **The Gospel means that we can be _____ of our sins.**

Rom. 4:7-8—7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

1 Cor. 15:3—For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures

- (2) **The Gospel means that we can be declared _____ before God.**

Rom. 3:23-25—23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his...forbearance he had passed over former sins.

- (3) **The Gospel means that can live our lives with the _____ of eternal life.**

John 3:16—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life

Jude 24—Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy

- (4) **The Gospel means that we can live lives that are _____ to God.**

Rom. 6:4—We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Gal. 5:16—But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Key Point: The benefits of the Gospel are received by simple _____ and _____ in who Christ is and what He has done for us.

The Gospel Reorients Our Lives

- (1) **Our lives are no longer our _____.**

Matt. 16:25-27— 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

1 Cor. 6:19-20—19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

- (2) **Our lives are part of a greater _____ that is unfolding in the world.**

Matt. 28:18-20—18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Rev. 3:12-13—12 The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. 13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Key Point: To know Christ is to _____ ourselves and our lives differently in view of who He is, what He has done, and what He will do.

Concluding Thoughts

1. Everyone has one of two _____ before God.

_____?

_____?

2. Everyone lives their lives for someone's _____ and with certain _____ in mind.

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Concluding Thoughts

1. Everyone has one of two standings before God.

Condemned?

Justified?

2. Everyone lives their lives for someone's glory and with certain purposes in mind.