

## What is the Gospel?

### OPENING QUESTIONS:

- How would you define the word "Gospel"?
- How can you best explain the gospel?
- What does it mean to you?

**OBJECTIVE:** for the disciple to confidently understand and be able to explain the biblical meaning of the gospel.

**Definition** of the word "gospel":

In modern english, gospel is often translated as "good news". It was always an announcement or a proclaimed message: to declare something about something.

### WHAT DID PEOPLE THINK THIS "GOOD NEWS" MEANT FOR THEM?:

**For The Jews:** the news was good when god would finally rescue his people from evil and their foreign enemies through his chosen king, the messiah (Anointed king), who would be a descendent of king David.

**For Others (specifically the roman world):** the news was good when there was an announcement concerning the coming of a great emperor who would be crowned and bring peace, prosperity and deliverance from evil.

### WHAT DOES THE BIBLE ACTUALLY SAY THIS GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) WAS?

**1 Corinthians 15:1-5** Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as **of first importance:** that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, that **he was buried**, that **he was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures, and that **he appeared** to Cephas [who is Peter], and then to the Twelve. (NIV)

This was the gospel message Paul preached, that saved people from sin and was passed on to us. It contained four important things about a person - Jesus:

- He died for our sins
- He was buried
- He was raised on the third day
- He appeared

### **How is this good news?**

**1 Corinthians 15:20-28** But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. **Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.** But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then **all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.** After that the end will come, when **he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. And the last enemy to be destroyed is death.** For the Scriptures say, “God has put all things under his authority.” (Of course, when it says “all things are under his authority,” that does not include God himself, who gave Christ his authority.) **Then, when all things are under his authority, the Son will put himself under God’s authority, so that God, who gave his Son authority over all things, will be utterly supreme over everything everywhere.**

Therefore...

1. God has restored humanity from sin through Jesus.
2. God has made him Lord (ruler) over all things.
3. He is coming back for good.

In sum, the gospel is an announcement about 1) Jesus and 2) the “good news” is his death, burial, resurrection, lordship and final second coming has done for the for all who believe and put their trust in him.

That is good news for the people of god. bad news for those who continue to be their own “god” or have something else in place of god.

Because salvation is a result of the Gospel, turn to the “Assurance of Salvation: Knowing You Are Right With God” one on one.

For further study:

Acts 2:22-39

Romans 1:1-4

Romans 3:21-26

Philippians 2:5-11

Colossians 1:15-20

2 timothy 2:8

1 Peter 3:18-22