

Words Of a Witness Ministries
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wordsofawitness.org

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Gospel!

I

The Good News, the Gospel, is the Good News of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ as provided by our Lord and preached by His disciples. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, *“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”* I, as in Apostle Paul.

The Gospel, the preaching of the Good News, being that He was born, He died and He was resurrected. This is the Good News! Why? He did this so that we may be saved. By our own choosing. No laws so strict that none but a few pleased God; but, He brought the Gospel, so that all could be saved if they so desired to be saved.

The Gospel then, is full and free deliverance from sin on the basis of our simple faith in Jesus Christ, our sin bearer, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and 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 2:8-10? Who God created in Christ unto good works, it says, which God ordained before time that we should walk in them. OUR CHOICE!

In this aspect of the Good News, the Gospel, it has two phases: first – to the unsaved, Christ died for you, *“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. ... and brought them out, and said, sirs,*

what must I do to be saved? And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” John 3:16; Acts of the Apostles 16:30,31: secondly – to the saved, I died in Christ, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into His death? 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. For if we have been planted together in likeness of His death we shall also in the likeness of His resurrection: knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him: knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him. For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God.” Romans 6:1-10.

To the unsaved and to the saved alike; those that are without the church doors and to those which are within these church doors, the emphasis are being on the experiential realization of this fact in this life of a Christian. Romans 6:11 says this by, *“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Our daily walk, our experiences we live through, need to be dead unto sin and be alive or living as Christ like as our Lord Jesus Christ!!!! *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?”* Romans 6:1. GOD FORBID we try to live as our old man and rely on God’s grace to take us to heaven with eternal life.

The Gospel, the Good News, is to all people, the unsaved and to the saved. 108 times in scripture from Matthew to Revelation, the word ‘Gospel’ is mentioned. It may surprise you to find out that in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, the ones’ telling the world, past, present and future, about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Good News, the birth, death and resurrection of our Lord, that from the mouths of the four Apostles, the word ‘Gospel’ was spoken by them a total of only six (6) times!!! Two by Matthew, two by Mark and two by Luke. John, the one who loved the Lord

the most, only spoke one time the word ‘Gospel’ and it is in Revelation 14:6. And Luke spoke the word ‘Gospel’ another 6 times in Acts of the Apostles.

In the four books by the Apostles, Jesus, Himself, spoke the word ‘Gospel’ eleven (11) times; but, only in Matthew, Mark and Luke. NOT ONCE in the book of John is the word ‘Gospel’ spoken. The only mention of ‘Gospel’ in the book of John is in its title, as it is mentioned in the title of the other three Apostles’ books.

Peter mentions the word ‘Gospel’ four (4) times in 1 Peter and the remaining seventy-six (76) times Apostle Paul speaks the ‘Gospel’. And we all know where Apostle Paul preached most. To the unbelievers!!! The unsaved!!!! To the un-regenerates!!!! To those who needed strengthening!!!

II

There are two forms of the Gospel which need to be differentiated. One, the Gospel of the Kingdom; and two, the Gospel of God’s grace. The Gospel of the grace of God, Paul calls this Gospel ‘my gospel’, ***“In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”*** Romans 2:16. Because the full doctrinal content based upon the Gospel of the grace of God embraces the revelation of the result in the out calling of the church, her relationship, position, privileges and responsibilities. The distinctive Pauline truth, in his epistles, honeycombing Ephesians and Colossians, is interwoven in all of the Pauline writings. The church, you and I, the saved, the Gospel of the grace of God reveals the church’s, yours and mine, relationship, position, privileges and our responsibilities in the out calling of the church!!!!

The other form of the Gospel, the Gospel of the Kingdom, the Good News that God’s purpose is to establish an earthly mediatorial kingdom in fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant, ***“And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.”*** 2 Samuel 7:16. Two publicly announced times the Gospel of the

Kingdom are mentioned, one past, with John the Baptist, fulfilled by our Lord and His disciples and the rejection of the Messiah by the Jews; and the other time is future ***“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. And this will be done during the great tribulation at the announcing or heralding the second advent of the King. Close resemblance, but not identical in it’s emphasis with the Gospel of the Kingdom is the everlasting Gospel, ***“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.”*** Revelation 14:6, which is preached to those on earth during the latter part of the tribulation.

III

“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: ... for if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.” Galatians 1:6; 2 Corinthians 11:4. These scriptures consist of any denial or trying to alter or to pervert the Gospel of the grace of God. Its’ meanings are that they deny the full power or effectiveness of God’s grace alone to save, to keep, and to perfect, and introduces some sort of human merit. The relationship of the Gospel of the law of Moses and the Gospel of grace of God have been a source of much confusion, strife, bitterness and God’s terrible anathema.

Under grace the Ten Commandments are all presented except the observance of the Sabbath day. But they are to be lived, not to find favor with God, but because the redeemed one, the truly saved one, has already found favor and eternal life and they possess the indwelling Spirit of God to want to work them out in daily conduct. There is a desire, a wanting, and a respect of God to live as His commandments tell us to do. We know it is not

our salvation. Not one of us is capable to earn, by our works, our salvation.
No, not one!!!!

IV

Have you rightly divided the word of truth???? The four stories of our Lord's life published by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were written by, as they were called, 'evangelist'. These accounts ARE 'Gospels', because they recite the whole event in the life, death, burial and resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. This is the Gospel, the Good News, the life, death, burial and resurrection and ascension of Jesus and the forth coming Holy Spirit of God, which makes the Gospel.

Not one whim, not one book, not one doctrine, not one verse and not one denomination makes up the Gospel, the Good News. From Matthew to Revelation, rightly dividing the word of the Gospel and what His purpose is for man, is the Gospel of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Do you have the love of God in your heart that you desire to follow God's guidelines for your eternal life? Have you felt His power? Have you experienced His love? Are you still experiencing His love???

Of the 108 times in the Bible, the word 'Gospel' is written: 25 times the word in Hebrew for Gospel means; to announce good news, 'evangelize', especially the gospel; declare, bring glad tidings, preach: 82 times the word in Hebrew for 'Gospel' means the same as the above 25 times with an added, a good message; *i.e.*, the gospel: and the only other time in scripture, the word 'Gospel' is written, means in Hebrew to announce glad news in advance, preach before the gospel, where in Galatians 3:8 it says ***“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, in thee shall all nations be blessed.”***

Is there faith enough in your life to believe in the Gospel of Christ? There is no other way to eternal life, no other way!!!! Only this way, because the gate is truly straight, and narrow is the way!!! And few, I say few, will there be that find it!!!!

Saved by the grace of God? Or, by the Gospel of Christ? Rightly divide the word of truth, *“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. Also, *“For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the Lord of the truth of the gospel; which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth faith, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth.”* Colossians 1:5,6. And 2 Timothy 2:15, *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

Finally, the Gospel, what is it??????????? 1 John 5:6-13 reveals God’s plan for man, see if you can agree? *“This is He that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which He hath testified of His Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave His Son. 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 have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”*

V

As I prepared for this letter, God just came through in these words. Matthew 7:13,14, *“Enter ye in at the straight gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”*

“And said unto them, thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel, unto wisdom ye sent me to present your supplications before Him; if ye will still abide in this land, then will I build you, and not pluck you up: for I repent of the evil that I have done unto you. Be not afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith the Lord: for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand. And I will shew mercies unto you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land. But if ye say, we will not dwell in this land, neither obey the voice of the Lord your God, saying, no; but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we shall see no war, not hear the sound of the trumpet, nor have hunger of bread; and there we will dwell: and now therefore hear the word of the Lord, ye remnant of Judah; thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; if ye wholly set your faces to enter in Egypt and go to sojourn there; then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt; and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after and there in Egypt; and there ye shall die. So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I (God) will bring upon them. For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel as Mine anger and My fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall My fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more. The Lord hath said concerning you, O ye remnant of Judah; go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this day. For ye dissembled in your hearts, when ye sent me unto the Lord your God, saying, pray for us unto the Lord our God; and according unto all that the

Lord our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it. And now I have this day declared it to you; but ye have not obeyed the voice of the Lord your God, nor any thing for the which He hath sent me unto you. Now therefore now certainly that ye shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, in the place whither ye desire to go and to sojourn. And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the Lord their God, for which the Lord their God had sent him to them, even all these words, then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Jonathan the son of Koreah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, thou speakest falsely: the Lord our God hath not sent thee to say, go not into Egypt to sojourn there.” Jeremiah 42:9-22; 43:12.

JEREMIAH, YOU ARE A LIAR! God would not tell *you this nor would He do us any harm!!!!*

Today, this is still happening in the Gospels. We are saved, God will not do anything to keep me from heaven, and I do not want to hear what God told me to do, I like *‘their’* message better than God’s message!!!!

Today, you are directly responsible for your own actions your own choices, through Christ’s death, burial, resurrection and ascension, the Gospel, the Good News. Rightly divide the word of truth; it is your choice. *“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”* Hebrews 13:9.

May God’s grace find you with open arms, a desire to serve Him, a willingness to obey, an humble spirit, not a proud one, and a choice befitting a kingdom with your King that gave everything He had for you!!!!

Don’t believe in vain!

“... while ye were yet ...”

Romans 5:8

Words of a Witness Ministries

Pastor Eddie

Gospel - 108 times

Matthew 4:23	Romans 16:25	Ephesians 1:13
Matthew 9:35	1 Cor. 1:17	Ephesians 3:6
Matthew 11:5	1 Cor. 4:15	Ephesians 6:15
Matthew 24:14	1 Cor. 9:12	Ephesians 6:19
Matthew 26:13	1 Cor. 9:14	Philippians 1:5
Mark 1:1	1 Cor. 9:14	Philippians 1:7
Mark 1:14	1 Cor. 9:16	Philippians 1:12
Mark 1:15	1 Cor. 9:16	Philippians 1:17
Mark 8:35	1 Cor. 9:17	Philippians 1:27
Mark 10:29	1 Cor. 9:18	Philippians 1:27
Mark 13:10	1 Cor. 9:18	Philippians 2:22
Mark 14:9	1 Cor. 9:18	Philippians 4:3
Mark 16:15	1 Cor. 9:23	Philippians 4:15
Luke 4:18	1 Cor. 15:1	Colossians 1:5
Luke 7:22	2 Cor. 2:12	Colossians 1:23
Luke 9:6	2 Cor. 4:3	1 Thessalonians 1:5
Luke 20:1	2 Cor. 4:4	1 Thessalonians 2:2
Acts 8:25	2 Cor. 8:18	1 Thessalonians 2:4
Acts 14:7	2 Cor. 9:13	1 Thessalonians 2:8
Acts 14:21	2 Cor. 10:14	1 Thessalonians 2:9
Acts 15:7	2 Cor. 10:16	1 Thessalonians 3:2
Acts 16:10	2 Cor. 11:4	2 Thessalonians 1:8
Acts 20:24	2 Cor. 11:7	2 Thessalonians 2:14
Romans 1:1	Galatians 1:6	1 Timothy 1:11
Romans 1:9	Galatians 1:7	2 Timothy 1:8
Romans 1:15	Galatians 1:8	2 Timothy 1:10
Romans 1:16	Galatians 1:9	2 Timothy 2:8
Romans 2:16	Galatians 1:11	Philemon 13
Romans 10:15	Galatians 2:2	Hebrews 4:2
Romans 10:16	Galatians 2:5	1 Peter 1:12
Romans 11:28	Galatians 2:5	1 Peter 1:25
Romans 15:16	Galatians 2:7	1 Peter 4:6
Romans 15:19	Galatians 2:14	1 Peter 4:17
Romans 15:20	Galatians 3:8	Revelation 14:6
Romans 15:29	Galatians 4:13	

