Exactly What is the Gospel?



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- 1. We are told that the word <u>Gospel</u> means "good news" (or good tidings) (Lu. 2:10, 11; Acts. 8:25).
- 2. Good news is in fact a "good message" or an account of something good. (2 Kn. 7:3-10; Pr. 25:25); Isa. 52:7; Isa. 61:1.
- 3. What is that good news, tidings or message all about? It is a message about <u>beholding</u> God. Isa. 40:9.
- 4. Why is there the need to behold God? Because, by this we can be qualified to be <u>changed</u> into the <u>image of God</u> (who is <u>God Himself in us</u>). 2 Cor. 3:18.
- 5. Basically, <u>sinfulness</u> hides God's face from us, that we cannot see God spiritually. Isa. 59:1, 2.
- 6. So then that man in sins is without God and Christ. Eph. 2:12.
- 7. Christ (or the Word), is the only <u>revelation</u> of God. Jn. 1:1, 18; Matt. 11:27.
- 8. So that without the Word (Christ), no one can come unto the Father (the Divine Nature). Jn. 14:6-9.
- 9. Without Christ (or the doctrine of Christ) one cannot have God. 2 Jn. 9; 1 Jn. 2:23, 24.
- 10. Beholding God is important for man who is a creation of God. (2 Jn. 9; 2 Cor. 13:5).
- 11. God wants to be <u>in</u> the heart of man, for without God occupying that <u>central idealistic</u> <u>position</u> it will be filled with idols. And it is this that <u>estranges</u> man from beholding God, or having God in him. (2 Cor. 13:5; 2 Jn. 9); Eze. 14:3-5.
- 12. Again, man needs to <u>behold</u> God that he may have God <u>dwelling in</u> him. This can only be done through the knowledge or Character of Christ. 2 Cor. 4:4-7; (1 Tim. 1:11; 1 Jn. 5:18-21).
- 13. The Gospel or "good news" or "message" is the <u>science of God</u> unto salvation for sinners. Rom. 1:16.
- 14. What does the Gospel save us from? It saves us <u>away from</u> sin. (Eph. 1:13; 1 Jn. 3:5; Matt. 1:21; Ps. 103:12).
- 15. The way God designed the Gospel to work is the following:
 - a. The Gospel will be the Character of Christ or God. (Jn. 14:6; Col. 1:5; 2 Jn. 9).

- b. The Gospel will thus give a revelation of the <u>Righteousness of God</u> which is <u>God</u> Himself or the Divine Nature. (Rom. 1:17; Jer. 23:5, 6).
- 16. Repentance and believing the Gospel causes God to justify the person. (Mk. 1:14, 15; Acts. 13:39).
- 17. <u>Justification</u> is God giving the <u>Righteousness of God</u> (God Himself) <u>into</u> our hearts. (Rom. 3:24, 22; Jer. 23:5, 6; Ps. 40:10).
- 18. Thus, it is God, by this <u>internal transformation</u>; that <u>motivates</u> us to do the righteousness of the Law. (Phil. 2:13; Rom. 3:30, 31).
- 19. The following chart illustrates this.

GOSPEL

CHARACTER OF CHRIST

REVEALS THE NATURE

OF GOD (GOD HIMSELF)

CAUSES MAN TO DO

GOD'S LAW

- 20. Thus the Gospel is <u>news</u> the Character of Christ that <u>reveals</u> the <u>Nature of God</u> to cause <u>salvation away from sin</u> (sinfreeness) to sinners. (1 Tim. 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:19).
- 21. The following chart illustrates this.

GOSPEL

(GOOD NEWS)

CHARACTER OF CHRIST

REVEALS THE DIVINE NATURE

CAUSES SALVATION AWAY FROM SIN

(SINFREENESS)

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