

Part 29 | THE RESURRECTION: By This Gospel You Are Saved | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 First Corinthians...Sinners Yet Saints

“Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the **gospel** I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this **gospel you are saved**, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that **he was raised** on the third day according to the Scriptures,” 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

- 1) **THE GOSPEL IS THE _____**
 - a. εὐαγγέλιον (*euangelion*) | eu=good and angelion=message or news used **81 times** in the NT
Key passages: Rom. 1:16, Gal. 1:6ff, Eph. 6:19, Col. 1:5-6, 23, 2 Tim. 1:8-10
 - b. What was the **bad news**? We are sinners deserving hell (Rom. 3, 6:23)
 - c. What is the **good news**? *See the next two points!*
- 2) **THE GOSPEL IS JESUS CHRIST _____ TO _____ SIN’S PENALTY**
 - a. **Jesus Is God** (John 5, 10:28-31 and countless others!)
 - b. **Jesus Died In the Place of Sinners** (1 Pet. 1:18, 2 Cor. 5:21, Isa. 53)
 - c. **Jesus Death Satisfied Sin’s Penalty** (Rom. 3:23ff, 1 Jn 4:10, Heb. 2:17ff)
- 3) **THE GOSPEL IS JESUS CHRIST _____ FROM THE _____ TO PROVE HIS ULTIMATE VICTORY**
 - a. The Historical Proof-**The Empty Grave** (Matthew 28:1-10)
 - b. The Historical Proof-**The Roman Soldiers** (Matt. 28:11-15)
 - c. The Historical Proof-**The Eye-Witnesses** (1 Corinthians 15:5-8)
 - d. The Historical Proof-**The Martyred Apostles and Saints**
- 4) **THE GOSPEL IS MANKIND’S ONLY _____ FOR SALVATION—**

The good news that has been handed down to us from God Himself is that Jesus Christ died and rose again to pay sin’s penalty, once, for all! Jesus Christ loved you and me so much that He willingly died in our place. John 15 says, *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for His friends...* That indeed is what Jesus did, but Jesus died not for those who called him friend, but for those who were his enemies. Romans 5 says, *While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* God loves you so much that he did not wait for you to call out to Him, but rather in the midst of your sin, He sent God in the flesh, Jesus to die for you and all of mankind.

Let me close with possibly the most quoted, memorized and loved verse of the entire Bible, John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

God loves you; Jesus died and rose to pay for your sins. Believe on Him today for the forgiveness of your sins!

Small Group Discussion:

Question #1—What are the **essentials** one must believe in order to have eternal life?

Question #2—What does **genuine saving faith** look like?

Question #3—The word **repent** is a **military word** that means to do **an about face**. You were going, believing or thinking one way and you then change your thinking, direction, belief and head another direction. This word has been highly debated in recent days as being **essential** for salvation and for a salvation presentation.

The Bible does use this word repent on several occasions, but the **essential** word used in the Bible in relation to salvation is the greek word πιστεύω (*pisteuō*) which is translated **believe** or **have faith**. This means to put one’s faith or confidence in someone or something.

#3a—Can the gospel be presented properly without using the word repent?

The book of John is the treatise on believing and nowhere in the book is the word repent used.

#3b—Can a person repent without believing in the gospel?

#3c—Can a person believe the gospel without repenting?

Final Question...How does repentance and belief intersect when it comes to believing in the gospel of Jesus Christ?

The term believe as used in the Bible in relationship to salvation calls for a person to reject all other “beliefs” and turn to belief in Jesus Christ’s completed work on the cross. When a child is learning math and they answer the question wrong, we don’t tell them “repent” of your wrong answer. No, we show them the right answer and when they embrace that right answer and method they must in turn “repent” of their wrong answer. They change their mind on the matter.

Salvation is much the same way. We are calling people to believe in Jesus alone to the exclusion of their former false belief systems.

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1) THE GOSPEL IS THE GOOD NEWS

- a. **εὐαγγέλιον (euangelion) | eu=good and angelion=message or news** used **81 times** in the NT
Key passages: Rom. 1:16, Gal. 1:6ff, Eph. 6:19, Col. 1:5-6, 23, 2 Tim. 1:8-10
- b. What was the **bad news**? We are sinners deserving hell (Rom. 3, 6:23)
- c. What is the **good news**? *See the next two points!*

2) THE GOSPEL IS JESUS CHRIST DIED TO PAY SIN'S PENALTY

- a. **Jesus Is God** (John 5, 10:28-31 and countless others!)
- b. **Jesus Died In the Place of Sinners** (1 Pet. 1:18, 2 Cor. 5:21, Isa. 53)
- c. **Jesus Death Satisfied Sin's Penalty** (Rom. 3:23ff, 1 Jn 4:10, Heb. 2:17ff)

3) THE GOSPEL IS JESUS CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD TO PROVE HIS ULTIMATE VICTORY

- a. The Historical Proof-**The Empty Grave** (Matthew 28:1-10)
- b. The Historical Proof-**The Roman Soldiers** (Matt. 28:11-15)
- c. The Historical Proof-**The Eye-Witnesses** (1 Corinthians 15:5-8)
- d. The Historical Proof-**The Martyred Apostles and Saints**

4) THE GOSPEL IS MANKIND'S ONLY HOPE FOR SALVATION—

The good news that has been handed down to us from God Himself is that Jesus Christ died and rose again to pay sin's penalty, once, for all! Jesus Christ loved you and me so much that He willingly died in our place. John 15 says, *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for His friends...* That indeed is what Jesus did, but Jesus died not for those who called him friend, but for those who were his enemies. Romans 5 says, *While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* God loves you so much that he did not wait for you to call out to Him, but rather in the midst of your sin, He sent God in the flesh, Jesus to die for you and all of mankind.

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