

Gospel Of Salvation

Ephesians 1:13

Introduction: The gospel. The greatest **thing** ever to appear among mortal men. Of course, its greatness is directly tied to the greatest **person** ever to appear among mortal men—Jesus Christ.

Paul's words show that the gospel has a place in our salvation. So it is indeed important for us to know about it. We need to understand what the New Testament teaches and avoid the confusion that exists about the gospel.

I. A Brief Look At A Few Points In The Passage.

- A.** It is in Jesus that we trust.
 - 1.** No matter what spiritual subject may be under consideration, Jesus is at the core.
 - 2.** He is the **“chief cornerstone of the foundation”** (*1 Cor. 3:10-11; Eph. 2:20*).
- B.** **“Word of truth”** and **“gospel of salvation”** are one and the same.
 - 1.** The word **“gospel”** simply means “good news.”
 - 2.** The ASV has “glad tidings” in the footnotes.
 - 3.** It is a message, but not mere words.
 - a.** It is an account of Jesus, the Savior (*Acts 10:34-43*).
 - b.** He has the **“words of eternal life”** (*Jn. 6:68*).

II. “Boiling It Down.”

- A.** Yes, the gospel is good news. What is it good news about? It is about:
 - 1.** Jesus (*1 Cor. 15:1-4*). These are facts to be **believed**.
 - 2.** His commandments (*Jn. 14:15; Matt. 28:20; 2 Thess. 1:8*). These are to be **obeyed**.
 - 3.** His promises (*Eph. 3:6; Acts 2:39*). These are to be **received**.
- B.** These all constitute the gospel.
 - 1.** One or two would be incomplete.
 - 2.** Need all three.
 - 3.** These are harmonious.
 - a.** Complement each other, rely upon one another.
 - b.** No disagreement, such as “preach the man, not the plan.”

III. A Simple Examination.

- A.** There was a time when Jesus had fulfilled all prophecies (**Lk. 24:44**).
- B.** He had died, been buried, and arisen (**Mk. 15:37, 46; 16:6**).
- C.** He appeared to:
 - 1.** Mary Magdalene (**Mk. 16:9-11**).
 - 2.** Others (**Mk. 16:12-13; 1 Cor. 15:6**).
 - 3.** The eleven (**Mk. 16:14**).
- D.** He instructed the apostles to **“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”** (**Mk. 16:15**).
- E.** Notice **Mark 16:16**, **“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”**
 - 1.** **“Believes”** = Facts.
 - 2.** **“Baptized”** = Commands.
 - 3.** **“Saved”** = Promises.
- F.** Good news:
 - 1.** Jesus is risen, He is the Christ!
 - 2.** Obey His commands.
 - 3.** Receive His promises.

IV. A Final Word Of Good News.

- A.** Man has a need (**Rom. 3:23; 6:23**).
- B.** The need has been met (**Rom. 1:16; James 1:21**).
- C.** This is good news in that the gospel supplies the very thing we so desperately need.

Conclusion: There is good news today! Do you believe it? Would you obey it? Why not do it now?