

EVANGELISM FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

What is the Gospel?

"I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings." (1 Cor 9:22-23)

I. John the Baptist and Evangelism

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.'³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."³² And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." (John 1:29-34)

- A. John seized the moment God had brought. (v. 29)
- B. John didn't let what he *didn't* know keep him from witnessing to the truth he *did* know. (v. 31)
- C. John trusted in the Word of God, not in himself. (v. 33)

II. Other Gospels About Jesus?

III. The Gospel: Where Do We Start?

- A. We should begin our message with God's truth about _____
 - Why would God be concerned with *me*?
 - Why should I be concerned about *God*?

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."²⁷ **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.** (Gen 1:26-27)*

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, **in the things that have been made.** So they are without excuse.²¹ For although they knew God, **they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him,** but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. (Rom 1:18-21)*

B. Our Greatest Problem: Sin and the Fall

“One of the early stages of becoming a Christian is, I think, realizing that our problems aren’t fundamentally that we have messed up our own lives, or have simply failed to reach our full potential, but that we have sinned against God. And so it begins to dawn on us that we are rightly the objects of God’s wrath and his judgment, and that we deserve death, separation from God, and spiritual alienation from him now and even forever.”

- Mark Dever, *The Gospel and Personal Evangelism*, 35.

I. “Saved From What?”

This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering-- ⁶ since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸ in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, ¹⁰ when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints... (2 Thess 1:5-10)

C. God’s Loving Provision: Jesus Christ

I. Fully God and Fully Man

“I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

2. How do we know Jesus’ sacrifice was true?

*Paul...set apart for **the gospel of God**, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and **was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead**, Jesus Christ our Lord... (Rom 1:1-4)*

D. Are We Done?

“It is possible for a person to become so mechanical in his witness that he can go through all the motions of witnessing without actually looking and praying for the response to Christ in faith by the other person. If we could remember this, we would find witnessing exciting, and we would learn that winning the argument often becomes far less important than winning the person to the Lord.” - James M. Boice

*I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of **repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ**. (Acts 20:20-21)*

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isa 55:6-7)