
What is the Gospel?

Jesus said 'I am the way the truth and the life' and to 'follow me.' He also died demonstrating the great love that He and the Father have for humanity. Jesus also stated that it is the will of the Father that whosoever would receive the gift of His Son would inherit eternal life and again it was said 'this is life eternal that they might know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

The gospel is easily understood yet that which pertains to our salvation is not understood by many. And I had to go through many experiences to learn a few lessons concerning salvation for I am naturally born with a good and evil nature- the tree from which the head of human family partook of the fruit of the tree of good and evil. As a child, on one hand I could lie for example, especially if it was to protect myself but then on the other hand I could do something extremely nice such as giving my very best toy to charity. But it is not good enough to remain in this state or by our inborn nature, as far as God is concerned. The tree grows and as it grows the trend and the fruit of the life becomes obvious. We cannot see God with a fractured nature and the reason becomes evident when we look around at the misery of the world. We are not safe for eternity in our natural state. God says in Isaiah the mind is totally sick and the body full of putrefying sores. Isaiah 1:6

Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

The Lord often has to test and work on us to get us from point A to point B, being naturally carnal and sold under sin and how far that goes depends on individual genetics, training as a child and surrounding influences but most of all our personal choices as a free will being. The new birth experience can be a hard process because we are brought up in the culture and ways of the world. A worldly nature comes with the music and television and schooling and germinates from a young age and over many years. Early on we learn to use our black and white or good and evil natures so that even though we see what is good as God has outlined, we are frustrated, sold under sin and finding that this Christianity might be working for others (so we assume) but it's not working for me.

Romans 7: ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. ¹⁶ If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. ¹⁷ Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.



It can be hard to come to Christ with a invisible monkey on our back pulling us backwards to the world, entrapped with the mind of Satan when we know really there is something

better. When our tastes are of the world it can be hard to turn to God because we love these things more than the things of God. That monkey that draws us back maybe dwelling on the past sins or not being forgiving to others or resentful or selfish. But even more deceitful is the unknown monkeys of pride and self satisfaction or an unrealised comfortable state of being which is unfit for heaven. People hear the truth but often family draws them away from accepting further light and truth but they realise not what their priority is for their family. Truth is progressive and without a right attitude to progressive truth we could become a dwarf or a bigot and don't get a 'get out of jail card' if you cannot accept progressive truth. This is why God is not working powerfully in many lives to solve their problems. What is natural to us is a nature of good and evil. People often say 'well I am a good person' (they say this about themselves though they follow not the Bible or accept Christ) but as long as the good and evil nature remains without God's intervention, the person is not fit for heaven.

The mind is turned to God by perfecting our relationship with Him. The daily ministration of the priest, that is Christ, in the sanctuary working in intercession between God and man continues until the point where a person walks with God continually. In Bible prophecy this is simply called the 'Daily'. Our main aim is to perfect our thoughts and feelings or our relationship with God by prayer and the reading of the Word (said Christ to His disciples, now you have become clean through the word that I have spoken unto you) and acting out these principals in our daily life until we become precious jewels as found on the Ephod that the priest bore on his chest and which Christ bears on His chest today in the heavenly sanctuary.

Baptism is the starting point of that walk to be with and trust in God, a sign of being washed cleaned by the Spirit of God. In the midst of that journey of life, Paul said its not like I have already arrived but I strive toward that perfect goal and what be the goal? To trust and love God by a perfect relationship with Him. A continuum through the days of our life until we are walking with God. Our work with God is relational. While we distrust ourselves and regret bitterly our short comings we arrive at a place of peace and a desire for God and a true love for Him as His commandment keeping

people. In this relationship at its beginning there must be a repentance and change of heart to be part of His kingdom. But as one walks and time goes on, the thoughts and feeling become like Christ's thoughts and feelings, yet while still carrying one's individuality and God revealing to each the purpose of their life.

God expects no less of us than we would expect from each other in a relationship by the law of the 10 commandments. For true friends do not lie and we expect them not to cheat on us and to be nice people to get along with. While this body will perish at death, at the last day, at the trumpet of God a new body is given God's children but the thoughts and feelings remain that have been perfected through the trials of this life if we only let Him.

To put it simply anything outside of this perfect relationship which we are to mature with Christ is a false gospel. To say justification is the only way you have perfection in this world is false. God is busy working with us for practical purposes to make that which was fractured in our nature right and it is a life work and the time of readiness and completion God only knows.... until we are sealed for eternity. Believe in what is impossible for man to do, God will do! Distrustful of self and trusting in God.

Here is a way to understand where our walk is at. Who has the heart? With whom are our thoughts? Of whom do we love to converse? Who has our warmest affections and our best energies? If we are Christ's, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him. All we have and are is consecrated to Him. We long to bear His image, breathe His spirit, do His will, and please Him in all things. {SC 58.2}

Those who become new creatures in Christ Jesus will bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." Galatians 5:22, 23.

John 14: ²⁰ At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

Because of the times we live in, there is not long years to learn to walk in Jesus but quickly stepping into line now as the end is near and God will come to receive his own.