

North Christian Church -

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11/8/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 18

Outline:

"Nothing new under the sun" - Solomon (Ecc 1:9)

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has been under attack since the Fall in the Garden. Cain rejected grace, as did the religious Jews during Paul's time, as do legalistic folks today.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a calling to grace.

Eph 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Jn 10:27-28

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand."

Remembering the Person

Instead of saying "The Gospel", try disciplining yourself to say "The Gospel of Jesus Christ". It is imperative, in any case of expression, that the Lord & Savior, the Person and His work, NOT be excluded in your thoughts.

1Ti 2:3-4

This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a calling to grace.

Your Calling to Grace

Do you realize that the simple fact of you having a life of gratitude brings glory to God? (1Th 5:16-18)

Php 4:19-20

And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

We aren't to supplant the Person and His work for the forensic details of salvation

(things left for the believer to learn and appreciate over time, through sanctification by grace) in our presentation of the Gospel. It's ok to complement Jesus Christ, but He remains the centerpiece.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

BEING the centerpiece, it behooves us to understand what JESUS CHRIST had to say about His OWN Gospel! If He made certain statements, we must accept them as "*gold refined by fire*" (Rev 3:18).

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

A gospel that somehow excludes Jesus Christ's OWN thoughts on the Gospel after His own name cannot be the true Gospel. It's perplexing why anyone would even desire to do such a thing.

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Trusting Our Personal Savior

Simply trusting the facts that a boat was built and that you can attest to its existence is NOT what is going to motivate you to get into the boat and be saved...only TRUST in the person and his work will do that. It's the same with the Gospel.

False Pretenses

Jesus was very up front when He evangelized people. He never desired to save someone who didn't understand what salvation meant. He didn't want anyone jumping into the boat under false pretenses that would later on find out they weren't saved (ala Mt 7:23).

False Pretenses

There will always be people, even so-called pastors, trying to obtain salvation through some other way than the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus knew this and was very adamant about presenting the full Gospel so that all who heard it would be appropriately convicted (e.g.: Jn 10).

The Full Conditions of the Gospel

BEFORE a person is even ABLE to get into the boat, Jesus places the full Gospel before them and says, "Do you accept my terms?"

Counting the Cost

It means that a heart must be presented with the fullness of the Gospel so that it can make a decision that satisfies God's integrity.

"then who can be saved?" (Mt 19:25)

Who can really deny self ...or take up their cross...or hate his own father and mother...without the supernatural help of God? No one! Thank GOD for grace!!!

"With God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26).

You and Grace

If your heart is right, then God will give you the appropriate abilities to "do"

whatever He's asking you to do.

You and Grace

If, when presented with the Gospel, we "accept the terms and conditions" of it with humble hearts, God will quicken and empower us to believe, repent, and have saving faith.

The Gospel Analogy

Jesus Christ, the builder, says, "You're going to drown in your sins unless you get into the boat and leave everything behind. Trust Me. I built the boat Myself - it is seaworthy and able to save you. Trust Me. My Spirit will pull you into the boat with Me. Don't worry about how. Trust Me. OK?"