



**WELCOME  
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BIBLE HOUSE  
OF  
GRACE**

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The  
**Gospel**  
in the  
**New Testament**  
(The Full Version)  
(2022)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

# The Gospel in New Testament. (The full Version).

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**NOTE:** All Books are in Biblical order.

**INTRODUCTION:** though this study covers thirty-three pages, it will leave the reader, with no doubt what the Gospel and salvation embraces and encourage all the redeemed in Christ that God, and His Son the lord Jesus Christ loves them, and that their faith in Christ guarantees their salvation to eternal life.

**For a brief overview, scroll to the title**

- A brief overview of the Gospel in New Testament.

At the end of this document (page 31).

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## JESUS WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE

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- **Matthew 1:21:** She will bear a son, and you shall call his name *Jesus*, for he *will save his people* from their sins.”

Jesus will save his people from their sins (Matt. 1:21), which means salvation is dependent upon Jesus.

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## JESUS PROCLAIMS THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

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- **Matthew 4:23:** And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and *proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom* and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee proclaiming the Gospel.

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## JESUS PROCLAIMS THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

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- **Matthew 9:35: (KEY)** And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and *proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom* and healing every disease and every affliction.

Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages teaching and proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom in their synagogues. (Matt. 4:23).

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## TEACH ALL THAT JESUS HAS COMMANDED

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- **Matthew 28:19-20:** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.* And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Jesus told his disciples to go and teach people to observe all that he had commanded them.

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## JESUS PROCLAIMED THE GOSPEL OF GOD

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- **Mark 1:14-15:** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of God, saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God is near, because his death and resurrection was near, the Kingdom he refers to is the present worldwide Kingdom made up of Jews and Gentiles in Christ from all nations. (Mark 2:10).

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## JESUS HAS AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS

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- **Mark 2:10:** But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

It is Jesus who forgives sins, not knowledge, the purpose of knowledge is to lead us to Jesus and by faith receive him and receive forgiveness of sin.

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## THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

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- **Mark 4:20:** But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."

This parable teaches Jesus sows seed (the Gospel) amongst all sorts of people, many receive the seed/Gospel, but only those who hear it, accept it and bear fruit are counted as good seed, the true present Kingdom of God is made up of this this good seed, however, other parables show that there are weeds amongst this good seed.

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## THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AS IF A MAN SHOULD SCATTER SEED

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- **Mark 4:26-32:** And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

This parable shows that the Kingdom in focus is the present Kingdom, because there must be a Kingdom existing for the Sower to return to and harvest.

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## THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED

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- **Mark 4:30-32:** And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

This can refer to the present Kingdom of God, for it started with only Jesus and twelve apostles, but it can also embrace the future literal millennial Kingdom of God to come.

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## THE APOSTLES PROCLAIM REPENTANCE

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- **Mark 6:12:** So, they (the apostles) went out and proclaimed that people should repent.

All twelve apostles proclaimed people should repent.

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## JESUS WILL BE ASHAMED OF ALL WHO ARE ASHAMED OF HIM

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- **Mark 8:38:** For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

This clearly shows the Kingdom in focus is the present Kingdom, for there must be a Kingdom existing for the Lord to return to.

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## THE GOSPEL MUST BE PROCLAIMED TO ALL NATIONS

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- **Mark 13:10:** And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations.

Jesus tells his disciples that the Gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations, before the end comes.

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## THE APOSTLES WHERE TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD

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- **Mark 16:15-16 :** And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup> Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Jesus told the twelve apostles, “Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole world, here the Gospel embraces believing and being water baptised.

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## MY EYES HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

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- **Luke 2:27-32:** And he (Simeon a righteous man) (v25), came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

Jesus is God’s salvation and light for Israel and the Gentiles, which shows that the purpose of knowledge is to lead us to Jesus for in him we have salvation.

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## JESUS HAS POWER TO FORGIVE SINS

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- **Luke 5:20:** And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”
- **Luke 5:24-25:** But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”.

Jesus has authority on earth to forgive sins.

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## JESUS TELLS A WOMAN HER SINS ARE FORGIVEN

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- **Luke 7:47-50:** Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” <sup>49</sup> Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this, who even forgives sins?” <sup>50</sup> And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

Jesus says to the woman, "Your faith has saved you," yet she has had no teaching, especially of the Old Testament. This was a woman of the city, who was a sinner, who brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. (Luke 7:37-38).

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## JESUS PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM

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- **Luke 8:1:** Soon afterward he (Jesus) went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him,

Jesus went on through the cities and villages, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom here embraces both the literal present Kingdom of God existing by faith in the hearts of the redeemed, and the coming literal Kingdom of God when Christ returns.

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## THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM IN A NUTSHELL

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### THE PARABLE OF A SOWER WHO WENT OUT TO SOW SEED

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- **Luke 8:4-15:** And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, <sup>5</sup> "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. <sup>6</sup> And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. <sup>8</sup> And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." <sup>9</sup> And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, <sup>10</sup> he said, "To you it has been given to know the *secrets of the kingdom of God*, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' <sup>11</sup> Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. <sup>14</sup> And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. <sup>15</sup> As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

The picture of the Kingdom here is that Jesus, the apostles, Paul and all who follow them proclaiming the Gospel of Christ (the seed) to the multitude's, many receive it, but not all endure, the focus here is the present Kingdom of God existing of all the faithful in Christ.

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## ALL WHO ACKNOWLEDGES JESUS HE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE BEFORE GOD

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- **Luke 12:8-9:** "And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, *the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God*, <sup>9</sup> but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God."

This shows that the power to save is in the hands of Jesus.

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## JESUS PREACHED THE GOSPEL

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- **Luke 20:1:** One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up

Jesus taught the people in the temple and preached the Gospel.

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## EVERYTHING WRITTEN ABOUT JESUS MUST BE FULFILLED

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- **Luke 24:44-47:** Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that *everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.*”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,<sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Jesus says, “everything that is written about him in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms, must be fulfilled, and highlights the truth, “he should suffer and on the third day, rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations.”

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## ALL WHO RECEIVE CHRIST BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD

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- **John 1:11-13:** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.<sup>12</sup> But to *all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*<sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Whoever receives Christ and believes in his name and are born of God, he gives the right to become children of God, this shows that whoever is in Christ is a child of God.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES IN GOD’S SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE

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- **John 3:16:** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever *believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

This verse clearly shows that Salvation to eternal life is in Jesus.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS IS NOT CONDEMNED

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- **John 3:18:** *Whoever believes in him is not condemned,* but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ is not condemned, which means they will be saved.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE

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- **John 3:36:** Whoever *believes in the Son has eternal life;* whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

This shows that salvation and eternal life is in Christ alone

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES GOD SENT CHRIST HAVE PASSED FROM DEATH TO LIFE

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- **John 5:24:** Truly, truly, I say to you, *whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*

This verse shows that whoever hears Jesus words and believes them and in God who sent him, has eternal life, and will not come into judgment, for by their faith in Christ they have passed from death to life. Jesus enforces this truth by saying, Truly, truly, I say to you, this shows that salvation and eternal life are in Christ alone.

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### EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN JESUS, WILL BE RAISE UP

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- **John 6:35-40:** Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Whoever comes to Jesus he will never cast out, but be raise them up on the last day, for the will of his Father is that everyone who looks on the Son, and believes in him should have eternal life.

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### WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS HAS ETERNAL LIFE

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- **John 6:47-51:** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup> Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The entire focus of this chapter from verse 29-70 is upon Jesus, and he says, Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life, meaning whoever by faith believes and trusts him and his words has eternal life. The only thing that needs to be added here is, whoever applies his word and commands to their lives.

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Jesus only gives us the following three commands:

1. Love God with all our heart
2. Love our brothers and sisters in Christ
3. Love our neighbour as ourself, meaning do good to them, not harm.

Jesus is saying to every believer, “truly, truly, if you have these things working in your life, you have eternal life.

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### WHOEVER FEEDS ON ME, HAS ETERNAL LIFE AND WILL BE RAISED

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- **John 6:53-57: (KEY):** So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup> As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

Here Jesus teaches the following three things that a person must do to be raised to eternal life:

1. Read Christ’s word.
2. Fully commit their life to him and his word.
3. Abide in him.

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## JESUS HAS THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

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- **John 6:68:** Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Peter states, Jesus has the words of eternal life.

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## JESUS IS THE DOOR WHOEVER ENTERS BY HIM WILL BE SAVED

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- **John 10:9:** I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

Jesus is the door to salvation and his Kingdom, whoever enters by faith in him will be saved.

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## JESUS KNOWS HIS SHEEP

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- **John 10:14-15:** I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,<sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Jesus is the good shepherd, who knows his own and they know him, in the same way (i.e., with the same love) that the Father knows him, and he knows the Father, for he manifested his great love for the sheep, by laying his life down for them. (John 10:14-15). This means we are bonded and united to our heavenly Father and our Saviour, by love, and by this same love they are united to each other, and to us.

- **John 10:27-28:** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.<sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. Jesus words, “My sheep hear my voice,” mean they know his word, and those who know his word will never perish, this verse highlights the truth, salvation is in the words of Christ and in believing in Christ.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS WILL NOT DIE

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- **John 11:25:** Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”

Salvation to eternal life is in Jesus, and Jesus alone.

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## WHEN JESUS RETURNS, WE WILL DWELL WHERE HE DWELLS

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- **John 14:1-3:** “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.<sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”

At this present time Jesus is in heaven preparing a place for the faithful, so when he returns to take us to himself, we will dwell where he dwells, and forever be with him.

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## JESUS IS THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE

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- **John 14:6:** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”



There is only one path to eternal life, and that is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## ETERNAL LIFE IS KNOWING THE TRUE GOD, AND JESUS CHRIST

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- **John 17:1-3:** When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

These verses show that salvation and eternal life is in knowing God and the Lord Jesus Christ, the purpose of biblical knowledge is to unite us to God and the Lord Jesus Christ and bring us into a spiritual and love relationship with them. These verses are teaching, whoever is in a faithful relationship with Christ and his heavenly Father have eternal life.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD HAS LIFE

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- **John 20:29-31:** Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The whole purpose Jesus miracles are recorded is to convince people that he is the Son of God, so that whoever believes he is the Christ, the Son of God, would have life in his name. These verses show that salvation and eternal life are in the name of Jesus.

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- **Acts 2:21:** And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved, all through the New Testament there are a multitude of Scriptures like this statement.

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## THERE IS NO OTHER NAME BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED

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- **Acts 4:12:** And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Salvation is solely dependent upon the name of Jesus.

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## SALVATION COMES BY REPENTANCE AND FAITH IN JESUS NAME

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- **Acts 5:30-31:** The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

The whole purpose of Jesus life and suffering was that salvation could come through repentance and forgiveness and faith in his name.

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## JESUS DISCIPLES TAUGHT AND PREACHED JESUS

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- **Acts 5:42:** And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Here we are told Jesus Disciples never stopped teaching and preaching Jesus.

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## THE GOOD NEWS CONCERNING JESUS AND SALVATION

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- **Acts 8:35:** Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the *good news about Jesus*.

An Ethiopian eunuch was reading the following passage in Isaiah:

- Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” (Isaiah 53:7-9)

The Scripture the Eunuch was reading was about Jesus, and the Good News Philip shared with the eunuch was about Jesus, his death and resurrection etc., for the entire chapter the eunuch was reading (Isaiah 53) is solely focused on Christ, which means that if a sinner is seeking God, all they need to know, is the Good News concerning Jesus, and all they need to do is repent, accept Christ and be water baptised.

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## PAUL’S ENTIRE MESSAGE IS JESUS

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- **Acts 9:20:** And immediately *he proclaimed Jesus* in the synagogues, saying, “*He is the Son of God.*”

Immediately after Paul was baptised, he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” (Acts 9:18-20). Paul’s entire message is Jesus.

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## PAUL USES THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES, TO PROVE JESUS

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- **Acts 9:22:** But Saul increased all the more in strength, and *confounded the Jews* who lived in Damascus *by proving that Jesus was the Christ*.

When Paul was with the Jews, he often referred to the Old Testament Scripture, but not to teach them, for the Jews already knew them, but to prove to them that Jesus was the Messiah their fathers and the prophets spoke of.

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## PAUL PREACHED JESUS IN JERUSALEM AND OUTSIDE THE CITY

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- **Acts 9:27-28:** But Barnabas took him (Paul) and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had *preached boldly in the name of Jesus*.<sup>28</sup> So he (Paul) went in and out among them at Jerusalem, *preaching boldly in the name of the Lord*.

Paul boldly preached the name of the Lord in Jerusalem and outside the city. The entire focus of Paul’s teaching and preaching is upon Jesus.

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## PETER’S GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

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- **Acts 10:36-43:** As for the word that he (God) sent to Israel, preaching *good news of peace through Jesus Christ* (he is Lord of all),<sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed:<sup>38</sup> how *God anointed Jesus* of Nazareth with *the Holy Spirit and with power*. He went

about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.<sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by *hanging him on a tree*,<sup>40</sup> but *God raised him on the third day* and made him to appear,<sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God *to be judge of the living and the dead*.<sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that *everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.*”

Here Peter tells us, the Good News God sent to Israel was Jesus Christ, his disciples were to preach the following three things:

1. Jesus is to be the judge of the living and the dead.
2. All the prophets bear witness of Jesus.
3. Through his name everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins. (Acts 9:36-43).

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### PETER DECLARE A MESSAGE BY WHICH ALL WILL BE SAVED

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- **Acts 11:13-14:** And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will declare to you *a message by which you will be saved*, you and all your household.’

Here we are told whatever Peter preaches has the power to save people, and the only message he preaches is Christ.

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### A WHOLE CITY GATHERED TO HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

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- **Acts 13:43-44:** And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to *continue in the grace of God*.<sup>44</sup> The next Sabbath almost the whole city *gathered to hear the word of the Lord*.

Paul and Barnabas urged converts to continue in the grace of God, and the next Sabbath the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.

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### PAUL AND BARNABAS PREACHED THE GOSPEL

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- **Acts 14:3:** So, they (Paul and Barnabas) remained for a long time, *speaking boldly for the Lord*, who bore witness to the word of his grace.
- **Acts 14:7:** and there they (Paul and Barnabas) *continued to preach the gospel*.
- **Acts 14:21:** When they (Paul and Barnabas) had *preached the gospel* to that city and had made many disciples.

Here we are told that Paul and Barnabas continued to preach the Gospel and made many disciples.

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### PETER PROCLAIMS THE WORD OF THE GOSPEL FOR ALL

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- **Acts 15:7:** And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should *hear the word of the gospel and believe*.

God called Peter to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles, so that they would hear the word of the Gospel and believe. The focus of the word of the Lord in the New Testament is Christ, and all things concerning him. (Acts 14:21).

- **Acts 15:11:** But *we (the apostles and the elders) believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they (the Old Testament Fathers) will.*"

The apostles and the elders believed that the Old Testament faithful, and the New Testament faithful will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## PAUL AND BARNABAS PROCLAIMED THE WORD OF GOD

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- **Acts 15:35-36:** But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, *teaching and preaching the word of the Lord,* with many others also. <sup>36</sup> And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we *proclaimed the word of the Lord,* and see how they are."

Paul and Barnabas proclaimed the word of God in every city.

- **Acts 16:10:** And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that *God had called us to preach the gospel to them.*

God called Paul to preach the Gospel, and his sole focus is upon Jesus and how the redeemed in Christ should behave.

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## PAUL USES THE OLD TESTAMENT TO PROVE JESUS IS THE CHRIST

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- **Acts 17:2-3:** And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> *explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."*

The statement, "Paul reasoned with the Jews from the Scriptures," means he used the Old Testament Scriptures to prove to the Jews that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and to prove the Messiah their fathers and prophets spoke of, is the Christ who he was proclaiming.

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## PAULS PREACHING IS JESUS AND THE RESURRECTION

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- **Acts 17:18:** Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because *he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.*

The sole focus of Pauls preached is Jesus and the resurrection.

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## PAUL TESTIFIED TO THE JEWS THAT THE CHRIST IS JESUS

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- **Acts 18:5:** When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, *testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.*

Paul sole focus was testifying to the Jews that the Christ is Jesus.

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## PAUL SHOWS THE JEWS, THAT THE CHRIST, IS JESUS

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- **Acts 18:27-28:** And when he wished to cross to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those *who through grace had believed,* <sup>28</sup> for he powerfully *refuted the Jews in public, showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.*

Paul does not teach the Old Testament Scriptures, but he often uses them to prove to the unbelieving Jews that the Christ is Jesus.

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## PAUL TAUGHT REPENTANCE TOWARD GOD AND FAITH IN JESUS

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

Paul taught in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greek's repentance toward God and of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## THE HOPE OF THE FAITHFUL IS RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD

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- **Acts 23:6:** Now when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial."

Paul proclaimed that the Hope of the faithful is the resurrection from the dead.

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## JESUS CALLED PAUL TO TESTIFY TO THE FACTS ABOUT HIM

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- **Acts 23:11:** The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome."

Jesus appeared to Paul, and told him he must testify in Jerusalem and Rome all the facts concerning him. Paul's entire focus is upon all things concerning Jesus, which is what Jesus had called him to proclaim, for only in him can anyone be saved to eternal life.

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## PAUL PROCLAIMED THE RESURRECTION

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- **Acts 24:21:** other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: "It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day."

As Paul stood on trial before the council, he tells them that he is on trial, because he proclaimed the resurrection of the dead.

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## PAUL, USES THE OLD TESTAMENT TO PROVE JESUS IS THE CHRIST

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- **Acts 26:19-23:** Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, <sup>20</sup> but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. <sup>21</sup> For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. <sup>22</sup> To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: <sup>23</sup> that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles."

Here we read, Paul proclaimed nothing, but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass, and his sole focus concerning what Moses and the prophets said, is focused upon what they said concerning Israel's promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## PAUL PROCLAIMS THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND JESUS CHRIST

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- **Acts 28:30-31:** He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, <sup>31</sup> proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Paul proclaimed the Lord Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God, the focus of the Kingdom Paul has in mind here, is the Kingdom Jesus' speaks of in the parable of the weeds and the good seed, which is made up of all faithful believers in Christ of all nations (i.e., the good seed) dwelling in the world (the field) amongst the wicked. (Matt. 13:36-38).

This is Christ's Kingdom that all believers dwell in at this present time. It is a Kingdom, not of bricks mortar and land, but of people. The entire focus of Paul's messages is Christ, and what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass, concerning Abraham's seed, Israel's promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## PAUL WAS CALLED AND SET APART FOR THE GOSPEL OF GOD

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- **Romans 1:1-4:** Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, *set apart for the gospel of God*,<sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,<sup>3</sup> concerning his Son, who was *descended from David* according to the flesh<sup>4</sup> 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,

Paul was called to be an apostle and servant of the Lord Jesus Christ and set apart for the Gospel of God which was promised beforehand, refers to God promise that, Israel's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ would come from Abraham's promised seed, who descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead.

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## THE GOSPEL IS THE POWER OF GOD FOR SALVATION

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- **Romans 1:16-17:** For I am *not ashamed of the gospel*, for it is *the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes*, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.<sup>17</sup> For in it *the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

Paul states, the Gospel, is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes and that the righteous shall live by faith. The statement, "The righteous shall live by faith," means the faithful by faith trusts in Christ's righteousness and God's grace to be to be counted righteous and saved to eternal life, in contrast to those who trust in their own self-righteousness, and in adhering to holy days and to strictly keeping ceremonial rites and religious traditions.

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## ALL ARE JUSTIFIED BY GRACE AS A GIFT, THROUGH CHRIST JESUS

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- **Romans 3:22-26:** *the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ* for all who believe. For there is no distinction:<sup>23</sup> for *all have sinned* and fall short of the glory of God,<sup>24</sup> and are *justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*,<sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.<sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and *the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus*.

Here we are told three things:

1. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
2. Those who are redeemed in Christ are justified by God grace.
3. The righteousness of God that leads to eternal life comes through faith in Jesus to all who believe.

This means that, redemption, justification, righteousness, eternal life, and grace are all a gift of God, for they all come not by our self-effort and works, but by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## THOSE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH HAVE PEACE WITH GOD

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- **Romans 5:1-2:** Therefore, since *we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*<sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained *access by faith into this grace in* which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

All who have been justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have peace with God, because by their faith in Christ they have obtained access to God's grace, and in this grace, they are able to stand confidently and joyfully looking forward to sharing God's glory.

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## CHRIST WILL SAVE US FROM THE WRATH OF GOD

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- **Romans 5:8-11:** but God shows his love for us in that *while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*<sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, *we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.*<sup>10</sup> For if while *we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.*<sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through *our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.*

From these verses we learn three things:

1. God showed his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
2. The faithful are justified by Jesus' blood.
3. Jesus will save us from the wrath of God.

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13

Knowing we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, while we were his enemies, we should comprehend, how much more we are loved, now that we have received reconciliation to God and love Him, and are saved by Jesus.' These truths should cause us to greatly rejoice in God for our justification and salvation.

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## PAUL'S GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

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- **Romans 5:15-21:** But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, *much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.*<sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. *For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.*<sup>17</sup> For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those *who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.*<sup>18</sup> Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, *so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.*<sup>19</sup> For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so *by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.*<sup>20</sup> Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but *where sin increased, grace abounded* all the more,<sup>21</sup> so that, as sin reigned in death, *grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Through the grace of God, and by faith in Jesus Christ we are justified, and all who are justified receive as a free gift an abundance of grace so that righteousness that comes by faith in Christ reigns in life over death, for it is not by our own self-righteousness we are counted righteous, but because of Jesus' obedience that we are justified and made righteous, and granted eternal life.



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## IF YOU BELIEVE JESUS IS LORD YOU WILL BE SAVED

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- **Romans 10:9-11:** if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Here Paul tells us that salvation is dependent upon the following two things:

1. Confessing that that Jesus is Lord, for with the mouth one confesses and is saved. This is not a onetime confession, but sharing the fact we believe in Jesus.
2. Believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, for with the heart, one believes and is justified.

Paul is saying, those who confess and believe that Jesus is Lord will be saved, and will not be put to shame (i.e., rejected) when Christ returns.

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## ALL WHO CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED

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- **Romans 10:13:** For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

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## FAITH COMES FROM HEARING THE WORD OF CHRIST

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- **Romans 10:17:** So, faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Paul begins this chapter saying, Brothers, my heart’s desire, and prayer to God for them (the Jews) is that they may be saved. The whole focus of this chapter is Salvation, which means that the faith in focus is faith for salvation. Paul’s entire focus for salvation is Christ. Supporting this he cites Isaiah, saying:

- Isaiah is so bold as to say, “I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.” <sup>21</sup> But of Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.” (Rom. 10:20).

The focus is Jesus, which means all a sinner seeking salvation needs to do is repent, accept Jesus and be water baptised, for this is all Jesus, the apostles and Paul teach concerning salvation.

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## PAUL WAS CALLED TO BE A MINISTER OF JESUS AND THE GOSPEL

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- **Romans 15:15-16:** But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God <sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Paul was called to be a minister of Christ Jesus in the priestly service of the Gospel of God.

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## PAUL ONLY SPEAKS WHAT JESUS GAVE HIM

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- **Romans 15:18:** For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed,



Paul had no desire to speak of anything except what Christ had accomplished through him to bring the Gentiles to obedience, by word and deed.

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## PAUL FULFILLED THE MINISTRY OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

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- **Romans 15:19-20:** by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;<sup>20</sup> and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else’s foundation,

Paul states, he had fulfilled the ministry of the Gospel of Christ and made it his ambition to continually preach the Gospel. His sole focus for salvation is upon Christ, and all facts concerning him, and how those who believe in him should behave.

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## PAUL’S GOSPEL IS THE PREACHING OF JESUS CHRIST

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- **Romans 16:25:** Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

Jesus is able to strengthen those who believe in Christ according to Paul’s Gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ. The mystery that was kept secret for long ages, refers to the following two things:

1. The Gentiles being grafted into the Commonwealth of Israel though faith in Israel’s Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The Jews and Gentiles becoming one nation united-together in Christ.

15

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During the Old Testament the Jews viewed themselves as the holy chosen race with God and the Gentiles as the unclean race without God.

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## THE SOLE FOCUS OF PAUL’S TEACHING IS CHRIST

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- **1 Corinthians 1:1:** Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,
- **1 Corinthians 1:7-8:** so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>8</sup> who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **1 Corinthians 1:17:** For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.
- **1 Corinthians 1:23:** but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,
- **1 Corinthians 1:30:** And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

From these verses we learn the following three things:

1. God called Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus to preach the Gospel.
2. Paul and the apostles preached Christ crucified.
3. All faithful believers are in Christ Jesus.
4. All in Christ are counted righteous, sanctified, and redeemed.

**NOTICE:** God called Paul to preach the Gospel, and his entire focus is upon preaching Christ, which is the ministry Jesus called him to. These verses and all other teachings of Paul highlight the truth that his sole focus concerning the Gospel, is Jesus and all things concerning him.

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## PAUL'S ONLY AMBITION WAS TO KNOW JESUS AND TEACH JESUS

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- **1 Corinthians 2:2:** For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Paul's only ambition and focus was to know Jesus and preach and teach Jesus.

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## GOLD, SILVER, PRECIOUS STONES, WOOD, HAY, AND STRAW

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### SOME WILL BE REWARDED; OTHERS WILL SUFFER LOSS

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- **1 Corinthians 3:11-15:** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.<sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—<sup>13</sup> each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.<sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward.<sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

These verses show that we cannot judge who is saved and who is not, for amongst all those in Christ, some excel in what they do, some walk worthy of their calling, while others fall short, but each believer in these groups will be saved, the difference is some will be rewarded, while others will suffer loss.

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## PAUL TEACHES CHRIST EVERYWHERE IN EVERY CHURCH

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- **1 Corinthians 4:14-17:** do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children.<sup>15</sup> For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.<sup>16</sup> I urge you, then, be imitators of me.<sup>17</sup> That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.

Paul became a father to new converts in Christ Jesus through the Gospel, and then says, this is why he sent Timothy his beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind his new converts of his teachings in Christ, as he taught them everywhere in every church. The only thing Paul taught was the Lord Jesus Christ and all things concerning him, this is because this is all a repentant sinner needs to understand to be saved and water baptised.

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## PAUL VIEWS SALVATION AS A PRESENT REALITY

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- **1 Corinthians 6:11:** And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Those in Christ are washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit of God. Paul does not view conversion and salvation as a future event, but as a present reality, when a sinner repents, accepts Christ and is baptised, they are saved in that moment,

and from this moment forward, build upon the foundation, which is Christ, which means they are saved, in the same way that Israel was chosen as God's people and destined for eternal life, all they had to do was maintain their position in God, likewise, what we have to do, is endure in faith, remain faithful to Christ and trust in God and His grace.

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## PAUL IS GRIEVED IF HE DOES NOT PREACH THE GOSPEL

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- **1 Corinthians 9:16:** For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

Paul is compelled to preach the Gospel, and woe to him, if he does not preach the Gospel, and all he has ever preached is the Lord Jesus Christ and all things concerning him.

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## PAULS REWARD WAS PREACHING THE GOSPEL FREE OF CHARGE

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- **1 Corinthians 9:18:** What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

Paul viewed preaching the Gospel free of charge as his reward.

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## BEING SAVED AND ARE SAVED

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### THE GOSPEL PAUL PREACHED HAS THE POWER TO SAVE

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- **1 Corinthians 15:1-5:** Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved (are saved in KJV), if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

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Paul preached the Gospel, Paul's Gospel proclaims, Christ died for our sins, he was buried, he was raised on the third day and he appeared to others. Those who repent, and by faith believe and receive these truths are saved (KJV), providing they hold fast to what Paul had taught them. This is the Gospel Paul received from Christ.

**NOTE:** the King James Bible always states, salvation in the present tense (i.e., are saved and similar positive expressions). The words, "unless you believed in vain," carry the idea, they were not genuine and sincere at the time of their commitment and baptism.

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## ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD ARE IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

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- **2 Corinthians 1:19-20:** For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. <sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

Paul states: that all the promises of God always find their "Yes" in the Son of God the Lord Jesus Christ. This means, forgiveness of sin, redemption, justification, salvation, our inheritance, and eternal life are all in Christ, whoever is in Christ, has forgiveness of sin, redemption, justification, salvation, and will inherit eternal life. This is why it is through the name of Jesus we utter our Amen to God.

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## PAUL PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

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- **2 Corinthians 2:12:** When I came to Troas to *preach the gospel of Christ*, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord,

Paul preached the Gospel of Christ, and nothing else.

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## PAUL CONSIDERED HIMSELF AS AND AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

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- **2 Corinthians 5:19-21** that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.<sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are *ambassadors for Christ*, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.<sup>21</sup> *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Paul viewed himself as an ambassador for Christ, who God had trusted with the Gospel of reconciliation, which states, "for our benefit Christ was made to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." God is reconciling all those who have faith in Christ to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them. (2 Cor. 4:19-21).

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## PAUL PROCLAIMS, "NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION"

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- **2 Corinthians 6:1-18:** Working together with him (Christ), then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.<sup>2</sup> For he says, "In a favourable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, *now is the day of salvation.*

Paul proclaims that this present age is the age for salvation.

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18

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## PAUL WAS FAMOUS FOR PREACHING THE GOSPEL

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- **2 Corinthians 8:18:** With him we are sending the brother who is *famous* among all the churches *for his preaching of the gospel.*

Here Paul states that James, the brother of Jesus, was famous among all the churches for preaching of the Gospel.

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## PAUL'S ENTIRE FOCUS IS THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

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- **2 Corinthians 10:7:** Look at what is before your eyes. *If anyone is confident that he is Christ's*, let him remind himself that *just as he is Christ's, so also are we.*
- **2 Corinthians 10:14:** For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach you. For we were the first to come all the way to you *with the gospel of Christ.*
- **2 Corinthians 10:16:** so that *we may preach the gospel in lands beyond* you, without boasting of work already done in another's area of influence.

These verses show that Paul's entire message was Christ.

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## BY REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST PAUL RECEIVED THE GOSPEL

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- **Galatians 1:3-5:** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>4</sup> *who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age*, according to the will of our God and Father,<sup>5</sup> to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Should anyone preach a contrary Gospel, let them be Accursed.

- **Galatians 1:7-8:** not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.<sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

The Gospel Paul preached was not man's Gospel, for he received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

- **Galatians 1:11-12:** For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.<sup>12</sup> For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Paul did not receive the Gospel from any man, nor was he taught it, but received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ, which means Jesus himself gave it to Paul, and Paul's entire focus is Jesus and all things concerning Jesus. (Acts 15:35-36).

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## GOD REVEALED HIS SON TO PAUL TO PREACH TO THE GENTILES

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- **Galatians 1:14-16:** And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers.<sup>15</sup> But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace,<sup>16</sup> was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone.

God Revealed His Son to Paul in order that He would preach Him among the Gentiles. After Paul's encounter with Jesus, he faithfully proclaimed the full Gospel that the Lord Jesus Christ had given him, whereby all can be saved, and his entire focus is Jesus. (Acts 15:35-36).

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## PAUL PROCLAIMED THE GOSPEL AMONG THE GENTILES

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- **Galatians 2:2:** I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain.

Paul preached the Gospel amongst the Gentiles; his entire focus is Jesus. (Acts 15:35-36).

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## PAUL PRESERVED THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL

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- **Galatians 2:4-5: KEY** Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—<sup>5</sup> to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

Paul preached the freedom we have in Christ and the truth of the Gospel; entire focus is Jesus. (Acts 15:35-36).

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## PAUL AND PETER PREACHED THE GOSPEL

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- **Galatians 2:7:** On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised.

Paul preached the Gospel to the uncircumcised (the Gentiles) and Peter preached the Gospel to the circumcised (the Jews).

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## A PERSON IS NOT JUSTIFIED BY WORKS, BUT BY FAITH IN JESUS

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- **Galatians 2:16:** yet we know that *a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ* and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

Paul preached, no one is justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, and that we must believe in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ.

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## IF WE COULD ATTAIN TO RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE CHRIST DIED FOR NO REASON

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- **Galatians 2:18-21:** For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. <sup>19</sup> For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.* <sup>21</sup> *I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.*

Paul's statement, "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose, means that he no longer trusts in the law to be counted righteous and worthy of salvation, for if he did, Christ's death serves no purpose.

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## YOU ARE NO LONGER A SLAVE, BUT AN HEIR THROUGH GOD

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- **Galatians 4:4-7** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so *that we might receive adoption as sons.* <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "*Abba! Father!*" <sup>7</sup> So you are *no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

Here we are told that those who are adopted as sons through faith in Christ, and cry Abba Father are an heir, this means that all who are adopted as God's sons, will inherit the Kingdom of God, eternal life and whatever else God has planned for eternity. (Gal. 4:4-7).

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## CHRIST HAS SET US FREE FOR FREEDOM

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- **Galatians 5:1:** *For freedom Christ has set us free;* stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Christ has set us free from the bondage of the law.

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## BY THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST PAUL BECAME A NEW CREATION

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- **Galatians 6:14-15:** But far be it from me to *boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,* by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, *but a new creation.*

The only thing Paul would boast in was the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, for by it, the world was crucified to him and he to the world. Circumcision and uncircumcision count for nothing, meaning works of the law cannot save a person, to be saved, a sinner must become a new creation.

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## GOD PREDESTINED US FOR ADOPTION THROUGH CHRIST

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- **Ephesians 1:5-6:** he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Before time began God in His eternal wisdom and foreknowledge predestined that those who by faith accept the Lord Jesus Christ would become His adopted children. All those in Christ are blessed with God's grace. (Eph. 1:5-6).

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## OUR INHERITANCE, IS THE RESURRECTION AND ETERNAL LIFE

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- **Ephesians 1:7-14: (Inheritance and Mystery)** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the *mystery of his will*, according to his purpose, *which he set forth in Christ* <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, *to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.* <sup>11</sup> *In him we have obtained an inheritance*, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you heard *the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him*, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> *who is the guarantee of our inheritance* until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

The focus of these verses is the plan God set in motion from the beginning of time, for the fullness of time (i.e., the completion of His plan), "which is to unite all things in heaven and on earth." This was partially accomplished at the first resurrection, and will be further accomplish when Jesus returns, and fully accomplished at the end of the millennium when Christ has put all things under his rule and he hands the Kingdom over to his Father and there is death no more.

**NOTICE:** it is those in Christ who obtain this inheritance, the inheritance is the resurrection and eternal life. This is why Paul prays, that we would be enlightened, to the riches of his glorious inheritance and enlightened to the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when He raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places. (Eph. 1:13-14). The mystery of his will in this context, is God's plan to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth, this is the mystery that was hidden to the Old Testament fathers, but is now revealed to us. Our fathers of old, believed they were the chosen holy race with God, and all others were an unclean race without God, and that was how it would forever be, but today, we know that this is not God's plan for the human race. (Eph. 1:7-14).

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## THIS IS BEAUTIFUL

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## BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED

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- **Ephesians 2:5-8: KEY** even when we were dead in our trespasses, *made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—* <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and *seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,* <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the *immeasurable riches of his grace* in kindness toward *us in Christ Jesus.* <sup>8</sup> For *by grace you have been saved through faith.* And this is not your own doing; *it is the gift of God.*

When we were destined for eternal death because of sin, God by grace, made all who by faith are in Christ, destined for eternal life. At this present time God sees all those in Christ seated with Him in heavenly places, so



that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace. The immeasurable riches of God's grace that we have in Christ, is a manifestation of His kindness and His gift to us, for it is only by faith and grace that we are saved, it is not our doing, but God's gift.

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## GOD IS CREATING ONE NEW MAN IN THE PLACE OF TWO

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- **Ephesians 2:15-16 (Gospel):** by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that *he might create in himself one new man* in place of the two, so making peace,<sup>16</sup> and might *reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross*, thereby killing the hostility.

The statement, "He might create in himself one new man in place of the two," means that in Jesus it is God's plan to bring Jews and Gentiles together to form one new nation, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with the Lord Jesus Christ being the cornerstone, as the following verses show:

- **Ephesians 2:19-20:** So, then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and *members of the household of God*,<sup>20</sup> *built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone*.

The idea is, a sinner hears the Gospel, repents before God, and by faith accepts Christ and are water baptised, from this moment they are symbolically viewed as the walls of a building upon which the foundation is the apostles and prophets and Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

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## THE MYSTERY MADE KNOWN

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### THE MYSTERY WAS MADE KNOWN TO PAUL

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Collectively the following verses reveal the mystery. The first verse shows that insight into this mystery was made known to Paul by revelation.

- **Ephesians 3:2-4:** assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you,<sup>3</sup> how *the mystery was made known to me by revelation*, as I have written briefly.<sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive *my insight into the mystery of Christ*.

The following verse shows, that the mystery, is that Gentiles are fellow heirs and members of the same body, and will inherit the same promise in Christ through the Gospel.

- **Ephesians 3:6:** *This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel*.

The following verse shows, that the mystery refers to God accepting Gentiles who have faith in Israel's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Ephesians 3:8-9:** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, *to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ*,<sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is *the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God* who created all things,

The following verse shows, the mystery refers to Christ dwelling in the hearts of Gentiles.

- **Ephesians 3:16-19:** that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,<sup>17</sup> so that *Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith*—that you, being rooted and grounded in love,<sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,<sup>19</sup> and to know *the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge*, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.



The mystery embraces the following three things:

1. in Christ, Jews and Gentiles are fellow heirs, and members of the same body.
2. in Christ Jews and Gentiles will inherit the promise through the Gospel.
3. through faith Christ dwells in the hearts of Jews and Gentiles who believe the Gospel, so that they would be, grounded in love and motivated by love.

**The promise in Christ:** refers to the resurrection and eternal life. (Ephesians 3:16-19).

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## PAUL'S SOLE FOCUS AND JOY WAS THAT CHRIST IS PROCLAIMED

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- **Philippians 1:12-18:** I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really *served to advance the gospel*,<sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.<sup>14</sup> And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are *much more bold to speak the word without fear*.<sup>15</sup> Some indeed *preach Christ* from envy and rivalry, but others from good will.<sup>16</sup> The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for *the defense of the gospel*.<sup>17</sup> The former *proclaim Christ* out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment.<sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, *Christ is proclaimed*, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice.

Paul states the Gospel had advanced throughout the whole imperial guard, and even though the ideal is for the Gospel to be preach with love and good will, some were preaching it from envy, rivalry, selfish ambition and insincerely, but regardless of this Paul rejoices that the Gospel is preached. (Phil. 1:12-18).

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**NOTE:** Paul's sole focus and joy was that Christ is proclaimed in all places, his entire focus is Jesus. (Acts 15:35-36).

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## FOR PAUL TO LIVE WAS CHRIST, AND TO DIE WAS GAIN

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- **Philippians 1:21-23:** For to me *to live is Christ, and to die is gain*.<sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.<sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. *My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better*.

For Paul to live was to abide in Christ and serve him, and to die was gain for he considered this was far better than remaining alive in his mortal body.

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## PAUL DESIRED RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT COMES THROUGH FAITH

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- **Philippians 3:7-9:** But whatever gain I had, *I counted as loss for the sake of Christ*.<sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of *the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord*. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order *that I may gain Christ<sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith*.

Paul was not only willing to sacrifice everything to know Christ, but he counted whatever he lost for Christ as rubbish, for his sole focus was to be found in Christ, not having a righteousness of his own that comes from the law, but the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ.

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## PAUL'S GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

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- **Philippians 3:10-15 (Gospel and Resurrection):** in verse nine Paul says, I trust in the righteousness that comes through faith (v9) that *I may know him and the power of his resurrection*, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,<sup>11</sup> that by any means possible *I may attain the resurrection from the dead*.<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this (i.e., the resurrection from the dead) or am already perfect (for we can never attain to such a perfection), but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.<sup>13</sup> Brothers, *I do not consider that I have made it my own*. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,<sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal *for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*.<sup>15</sup> Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.

Paul's greatest desire was to know Christ and attain to the resurrection, he understood that he was not perfect (for we can never attain to such a perfection), but despite this he forgets what lies behind and presses on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**NOTICE:** Paul is fully aware Jesus has made him his own. (Phil. 3:12).

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## THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL

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- **Colossians 1:22-23 (The hope of the Gospel):** he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,<sup>23</sup> if indeed *you continue in the faith*, stable and steadfast, *not shifting from the hope of the gospel* that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and *of which I, Paul, became a minister*.

Paul states that the hope of the Gospel has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, it was for this hope that he became a minister. The hope of the Gospel is Israel's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## THE MYSTERY, WHICH IS CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY

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- **Colossians 1:24-28:** Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh, I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,<sup>25</sup> of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, *to make the word of God fully known*,<sup>26</sup> *the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints*.<sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of *this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*.<sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

The mystery that was hidden from past generations, "is Christ in you," this means that Christ dwell within faithful believers by love and Spirit.

**NOTICE:** God called Paul to make the word of God fully known, and Paul's entire focus is upon preaching Christ, which is ministry God called him to.

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## THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S MYSTERY, WHICH IS CHRIST

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- **Colossians 1:27:** To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of *this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*.
- **Colossians 2:2:** that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and *the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ*,
- **Colossians 4:3:** At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, *to declare the mystery of Christ*, on account of which I am in prison.

Paul is in prison, because of the mystery, which is Christ in you, this means that Christ dwell within faithful believers by love and Spirit.

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## JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS

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- **1 Timothy 1:15-16:** The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners*, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience *as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life*.

Jesus came into the world to save sinners to eternal life.

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## IF ANYONE TEACHES A DIFFERENT GOSPEL

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- **1 Timothy 6:3:** If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the *sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness*.

All must hold fast to sound doctrine that agrees with the words of the Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that promote and agree with godliness. Here we are told to hold fast to sound doctrine. Sound doctrine in this context, does not refer to every teaching from Genesis to Revelation, but to the following two teachings:

1. All teachings that agree with the words Jesus spoke.
2. All teachings that lead to godliness.

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## SALVATION IS IN CHRIST JESUS WITH ETERNAL GLORY

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- **2 Timothy 2:10-12:** Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain *the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory*. <sup>11</sup> *The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; <sup>12</sup> if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us.*

Salvation and eternal life are in Jesus, if we have died with him, we will also live with him, and if we endure, we will also reign with him, but if we deny him, he also will deny us. Neither God nor the Lord Jesus Christ will force themselves upon anyone, we must choose to follow Christ and invite him into our lives.

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## THERE IS A CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS LAID UP FOR ME

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- **2 Timothy 4:6-8:** For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, *I have kept the faith*. <sup>8</sup> Henceforth *there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing*.

Paul states, he endured to the end and kept his faith, and then confidently says, "A crown of righteousness is laid up for him," which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to him on that Day, and not only to him but also to all who have loved his appearing. (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

**NOTICE:** Paul does not say, "the righteous judge, will award him a crown of righteousness on the day of judgment, but on that Day, which implies those who endure to the end and remain faithful, will not be judged, but rather accepted, for they will hear Christ's words, "well done good and faithful servant."

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## PAUL'S GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

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- **Titus 2:11-14: KEY** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. (1 Titus 2:11-14).

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## PAUL'S GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL AND THE GOSPEL OF HOPE

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- **Titus 3:4-8: (Gospel and Hope):** But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup> The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, who He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Those who believe in God should devote themselves to good works, for they are excellent and profitable for people.

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## THE GOSPEL, THE INHERITANCE AND JESUS THE HEIR

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- **Hebrews 1:1-2:** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> *but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things*, through whom also he created the world.

Here we are told God has appointed His Son heir of all things, this means that the Lord Jesus Christ's brothers and sisters will inherit all things with him, in the same way that the children of an earthly father inherit all things their father owns.

This means that those who are true brothers and sisters of Christ will inherit all the promise of God and eternal life.

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## SALVATION WAS DECLARED FIRST BY JESUS

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- **Hebrews 2:3-4:** *how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord*, and it was attested to us by those who heard, <sup>4</sup> while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Here we are told that salvation was firstly declared by the Lord, it was confirmed by those who heard it, and witnessed by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit. This means all that is needed to be saved to eternal life, is contained in all the words Jesus spoke.

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## JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF ETERNAL SALVATION

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- **Hebrews 5:9-10:** And being made perfect, *he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him*,<sup>10</sup> being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Jesus is the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

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## THE NEW COVENANT IS ESTABLISHED ON BETTER PROMISES

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- **Hebrews 8:6-8:** But as it is, *Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.*<sup>7</sup> For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.<sup>8</sup> For he finds fault with them when he says: “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,

Christ has obtained a far more excellent ministry than the old covenant, because he acted on better promises, for, if the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need to look for a second. This means all a repentant sinner needs to know to be saved to eternal life is contained in the New Testament.

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## THE NEW COVENANT HAS MADE THE FIRST COVENANT OBSOLETE

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- **Hebrews 8:13:** In speaking of a new covenant, *he makes the first one obsolete*. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old *is ready to vanish away*.

The New Testament covenant has made the Old Testament covenant obsolete, which means all a repentant sinner needs to know to be saved to eternal life is contained in the New Testament.

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## THE GOSPEL AND THE PROMISED INHERITANCE

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- **Hebrews 9:11-15: (Gospel and promised eternal inheritance)** But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)<sup>12</sup> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but *by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption*.<sup>13</sup> For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh,<sup>14</sup> *how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God*.<sup>15</sup> Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called *may receive the promised eternal inheritance*, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

The focus of this chapter is upon Christ securing an eternal redemption, by means of his own blood so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. We are then told, Christ appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself to bear the sins of many, and save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

In this context the promised inheritance is salvation and eternal life.

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## THOSE WHO ENDURE RECEIVE A CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

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- **James 1:12:** Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

The test means all will be tested on the sincerity of their faith, those who pass the test, meaning those who have honestly walked in faith and in love toward God and toward Christ and faithfully endured in faith to the end will receive a crown of righteousness. (James 1: 12).

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## ABRAHAM WAS JUSTIFIED BY WORKS

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### YOU HAVE FAITH AND I HAVE WORKS

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- **James 2:14-23:** What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup> So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! <sup>20</sup> Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? <sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God.

Abraham was justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar, this is because his outward works manifested his inward faith, his inward faith was outwardly acted on, this why it is stated, “faith was completed by his works.” It is also why, God counted Abraham as righteous and why he is called a friend of God. It should be mentioned, we are not saved by works, but by faith, our works are the outward fruits and evidence of our inward faith.

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Following are two simple examples:

1. A person who confesses to believe in Christ, but has no interest in talking about Jesus, learning about God, or fellowshiping with other believers, this person’s faith is both useless and dead.
2. A person who confesses to believe in Christ, and does attend church every Sunday, and strictly holds to their religious ceremonial practised and traditions, but on every other day of the week give God no thought, and do exactly as they please, this person faith is also both useless and dead. (James 2: 14-23).

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## THOUGH YOU HAVE NOT SEEN HIM, YOU LOVE HIM

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- **1 Peter 1:8-13:** *Though you have not seen him, you love him.* Though you do not now see him, *you believe in him* and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. <sup>10</sup> Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, <sup>11</sup> inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. <sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, *set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

The entire focus of these verses is love for Christ, believing and rejoicing in him and obtaining the outcome of our faith, which is eternal salvation. Concerning this salvation, the prophets prophesied about the grace that was to be ours and predicted the sufferings of Christ and his future glories. Peter tells us to set our hope fully on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ, this is because with grace, we have no hope, for it is only by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and God's grace that we are saved.

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## THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

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- **1 Peter 1:18-21:** knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,<sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.<sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you<sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

All in Christ are ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, who was foreknown in God's eternal mind and eternal foreknowledge before the foundation of the world, but has been made manifest to us in this last age. God raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that our faith and hope would be in God. God in this context is our hope, because being raised from the dead is the focus, and it was God who raised Jesus, and it will be God who raises us, we are united to God by our faith in Jesus.

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## YOU HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN, BY THE GOOD NEWS

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- **1 Peter 1:22-25:** Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,<sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;<sup>24</sup> for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

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Here the writer tells us those in Christ are born again, through the living and abiding word of God, and that this word is the Good News that was preached to them. the Good News refers to the Gospel as revealed by Jesus, the apostles and Paul, and the entire focus of their teaching is upon Israel's promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME

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- **1 Peter 2:6:** For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

Jesus Christ is chosen and precious in God's sight and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame, meaning Christ will not reject them at the resurrection.

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## IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL TO FORGIVE US

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- **1 John 1:9-10:** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.<sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:9-10).



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## ALL IN CHRIST, WILL NOT SHRINK BACK WHEN HE APPEARS

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- **1 John 2:28:** And now, little children, *abide in him*, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.<sup>29</sup> If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

All who have been born of Christ, faithfully abide in him and practice righteousness will not shrink from him in shame at his coming, and can have confidence when he appears.

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## ALL WHO CONFESS JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD, ABIDES IN HIM

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- **1 John 4:7-21:** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves *has been born of God* and knows God.<sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that *God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him*.<sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that *he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins*.<sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.<sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; *if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us*.<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.<sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.<sup>15</sup> *Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him*, and he in God.<sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.<sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that *we may have confidence for the day of judgment*, because as he is so also are we in this world.<sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.<sup>19</sup> *We love because he first loved us*.<sup>20</sup> If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.<sup>21</sup> And *this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother*.

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God loved us and sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world and to be the propitiation for our sins, so we could live by faith through His Son. Following are three things we must do for God to abide in us and for us to abide in God:

1. Love God and abide in Him.
2. Love one another.
3. Confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Whoever is faithful in these abides in God and God abides in them, can have confidence as they look toward the day of judgment, because perfect love casts out fear, for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. This means, if we have a fear of how we will be judged, God’s love is not perfected in us.

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## ALL WHO BELIEVE IN JESUS ARE BORN OF GOD

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- **1 John 5:1-5:** *Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God*, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.<sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and *obey his commandments*.<sup>3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we *keep his commandments*. And *his commandments are not burdensome*.<sup>4</sup> For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.<sup>5</sup> *Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world, by their faith, and the belief that Jesus is the Son of God. Those who love God and obey his commandments manifest that they are his children.



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## GOD GAVE US ETERNAL LIFE, WHOEVER HAS THE SON HAS LIFE

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- **1 John 5:11-13:** And this is the testimony, that *God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*<sup>12</sup> *Whoever has the Son has life;* whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.<sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God *that you may know that you have eternal life.*

God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son, whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. John wrote this so that those who believe in the name of the Son of God will know that they have eternal life.

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## THE SON OF GOD CAME THAT WE MAY KNOW GOD WHO IS TRUE

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- **1 John 5:20:** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him (God) who is true; and we are in him (God) who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He (God) is the true God and eternal life.

The Son of God came and gave us understanding, so that we may know we are in God who is true, by our faith in his Son Jesus Christ, for those whose faith is in Jesus are in the true God and have eternal life.

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## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE GOSPEL IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

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### Topics.

- Key Scriptures concerning Jesus.
- The Kingdom of God.
- The Gospel through the New Testament.
- Paul's Gospel.

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## INTRODUCTION

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Though this study covers six pages, it will leave the reader, with no doubt what the Gospel of grace and salvation embraces, and encourage all the redeemed in Christ that God, and His Son the Lord Jesus Christ loves them, and that their faith in him guarantees their salvation to eternal life.

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## KEY SCRIPTURES CONCERNING JESUS

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Scripture tells us Jesus will save his people from their sins (Matt. 1:21); he has the words of eternal life (John 6:68) and authority on earth to forgive sins. (Luke 5:20) (Luke 5:24). He is the good shepherd, who knows his own and they know him, and is the door to salvation and to his Kingdom; whoever enters by faith in him will be saved (John 10:9); he manifested his great love for us, by laying his life down for us (John 10:14-15); the power to save is in his hands (Luke 12:8-9); at the end of the age he will return to take all the faithful to himself, and they will dwell where he dwells, and forever be with him. (John 14:1-3).

These verses highlight the truth salvation is solely dependent upon faith in Christ.

The Scriptures on the following pages show that Salvation and eternal life are in knowing God and the Lord Jesus Christ, and that God before the foundation of the world, planned and purposed in His eternal mind and eternal foreknowledge that His Son would be the Saviour of the world. All the prophets bear witness of Jesus, for the purpose of Scripture is to lead us to Jesus, because he is God's salvation and light for all people, whoever believes Jesus is the Christ and in God who sent him, has eternal life, for it is by faith, that all in Christ have passed from death to life.

When a sinner repents, accepts Christ, and is baptised, they are washed, sanctified, and justified by the Spirit of God, and ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, and born of God, and everyone who has been born of God is saved, and secured for eternal redemption by means of Christ's blood. From this moment forward, they build their life upon the foundation of their salvation, which is Christ, continuing to abide in God's love and in Christ's love, and loving one another, confessing Jesus is the Son of God.

Through faith in Christ Jews and Gentiles who believe the Gospel will inherit the promised inheritance, which is salvation and eternal life, for whoever comes to Jesus he will never cast out, but raise them up on the last day, for all the redeemed in Christ are destined for eternal life by God's grace, and Jesus is the judge of the living and the dead. It is interesting to notice, the King James Bible always states, salvation in the present tense (i.e., are saved etc.). The scriptures do talk of those being saved (Acts 2:47), however, this refers to those the Lord is adding to the church, they are hearing the word of the Lord, but have not yet made a commitment, it is in this sense they are being saved (i.e., in the process of being saved).

#### **Key Scriptures regarding salvation:**

- In Jesus we have forgiveness of sin and salvation (Luke 2:27-32), for whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved, for eternal life is in Jesus Christ alone. (John 3:16) (John 3:18) (John 3:36) (John 5:24). Everyone who looks on the Son, and believes in him, and fully commits their life to Jesus and his word, and abides in him has eternal life, and Jesus will raise them up on the last day (John 6:40) (John 6:53-57).
- All in Christ are bonded and united to Jesus and his heavenly Father by love, and our heavenly Father and our Saviour are united to us by love. (John 10:14-15). Salvation to eternal life is in the words of Christ and in believing in Jesus alone. (John 10:27-28) (John 11:25), for there is only one path to eternal life, and that is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 14:6). Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Acts 2:21) (throughout the New Testament there are a multitude of Scriptures like this), for salvation is solely dependent upon the name of Jesus. (Acts 4:12).
- The whole purpose of Jesus life and suffering was that salvation could come through repentance, forgiveness, and faith in his name (Acts 5:30-31), which means, all a sinner needs to know to be saved, is the Good News concerning Jesus, and all they need to do is repent, accept Christ and be water baptised. (Acts 8:35-38), and endure in faith, remain faithful to Christ, and trust in God and His grace (1 Cor. 6:11), for through the name of Jesus everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins.
- Before time began God in His eternal wisdom and foreknowledge predestined that those who by faith accept the Lord Jesus Christ would become His adopted children. (Eph. 1:5-6), and be blessed with God's grace. (Eph. 1:5-6), and as adopted sons of God through faith in Christ, cry Abba Father (i.e., I love you heavenly Father), and as sons are heirs, who will inherit the Kingdom of God and eternal life. (Galatians 4:4-7).

- Christ has set all the redeemed who set their faith on him free from the bondage of the law (Gal. 5:1), for it is only by faith and grace that anyone of us is saved, because our salvation is not our doing, but God's gift. (Eph. 2:5-8), for Jesus is God's plan to bring Jews and Gentiles together to form one new nation, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with the Lord Jesus Christ being the cornerstone. Christ dwells within faithful believers by love and Spirit (Eph. 3:15-19), and came into the world to save sinners to eternal life (1 Tim. 1:15-16), whoever has by faith died with him and remain in faith will live and reign with him, for salvation and eternal life are in Jesus. (2 Timothy 2:10-12).
- The Christians' blessed hope is the resurrection and the glorious appearing of Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:11-14), for God saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, who He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Though we are not saved by good works, all in Christ who believe in God should devote themselves to good works, for they are excellent and profitable for people. (Titus 3:4-8).
- The Lord Jesus Christ is heir of all things, which means his brothers and sisters will inherit all things with him, in the same way that the children of an earthly father inherit all things their father owns, all the redeemed in Christ will inherit all the promises of God and eternal life (Heb. 1:1-2), for all that is needed to be saved to eternal life, is contained in the Gospel Jesus gave to the apostle Paul, and in all the words Jesus spoke (Heb. 2:3-4), for he is the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him. (Heb. 5:9-10).
- All a repentant sinner seeking God needs to know to be saved to eternal life and receive the promised inheritance is contained in the New Testament. (Heb. 8:6-8, 13), for Christ by the sacrifice of himself bore the sins of many, and saves those who are eagerly waiting for him. In this context the promised inheritance is salvation and eternal life. (Heb. 9:11-15), for it is only by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and God's grace that we are saved. (1 Peter 1:8-13). Jesus Christ is chosen and precious in God's sight and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame, meaning Christ will not reject them at the resurrection (1 Peter 2:6), for he is faithful and just to forgive all who confess their sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, but if we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:9-10).
- All who have been born of Christ, and faithfully abide in him, and who practice righteousness will not shrink in shame from him at his coming, but can have confidence when he appears (1 John 2:28), for those who love God and obey His commandments manifest they love him, and are His children (1 John 5:1-5), and eternal life is in God's Son, which means whoever has the Son has life, for all who believe in the name of the Son of God, and whose faith is in Jesus are in the true God and have eternal life. (1 John 5:11-13) (1 John 5:20).

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## THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of God, saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God is near, because his death and resurrection was near, the Kingdom he firstly refers to is the present worldwide Kingdom made up of Jews and Gentiles in Christ from all nations existing by faith in the hearts of the redeemed, and secondly, the literal future Kingdom Jesus will establish on earth when he returns in glory. (Luke 8:1) (Mark 1:14-15) (Mark 2:10). The present Kingdom of

God it is not a Kingdom of bricks, mortar, or land, but of people of all nations who have faith in Christ, within this global spiritual Kingdom of faith there is good seed (wheat), and bad seed (weeds) (Mark 4:10-20), when Jesus returns in glory to the present Kingdom, he will separate the good seed from the bad seed. (Mark 4:26-32) (Mark 8:38).

(1 Cor. 1:1) (1 Cor. 1:7-8) (1 Cor. 1:17) (1 Cor. 1:23) (1 Cor. 1:30).

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## THE GOSPEL THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

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The Good News refers to the Gospel Jesus, the apostles and Paul proclaimed, the entire focus of their teaching is upon Israel's promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:22-25). Jesus told the apostles, "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole world, the Gospel they proclaim embraces all things concerning Jesus. (Mark 16:15-16). Many hear the Gospel proclaimed, but only those who accept it, and bear fruit are counted as good seed. A sinner hears the Gospel, repents before God, receives Christ as their Saviour, and by believing in his name are born of God, water baptised and become children of God. (John 1:11-13).

From this moment they build their life upon the apostles and prophets and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2:19-20), growing in knowledge and the fruits of the Spirit, and follow the three commandments Jesus gave us which are, love God with all our heart, love our brothers and sisters in Christ, and love our neighbour as ourself, meaning do good to them, not harm. Jesus encourages all who uphold these, saying, "truly, truly, if you have these things working in your life, you have eternal life." (John 6:47-51). It is interesting to notice, the Gospel of grace and salvation, Jesus, the apostles, and Paul proclaimed does not include teachings from the Old Testament.

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It is true, "all Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17), but it is also equally true, not all Scripture is needed for salvation.

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## PAUL'S GOSPEL

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Introduction to Paul's Gospel: Paul did not receive the Gospel from any man, nor was he taught it, for God through a revelation revealed His Son to Paul, and called him to be an apostle and minister of Christ Jesus in the priestly service of the Gospel of God in order that he would preach Him among the Gentiles and make the Gospel fully known. (Rom. 15:15-16) (Gal. 1:6-8). Jesus appeared to Paul on the Road to Damascus and set him apart to proclaim the Gospel of grace and salvation he had given him through revelation (Gal. 1:12) to proclaim to the Gentiles. Paul's entire focus is testifying to all things concerning Jesus (Acts 18:5) and preaching the Gospel of salvation and grace, that Jesus gave him (2 Cor. 2:12), which is the ministry God called him to. (Col. 1:24-28).

Paul's entire focus for salvation is Jesus and all things concerning him (Acts 15:35-36) (Gal. 1:11-12), which is what Jesus had called him to proclaim, for only in Jesus can anyone be saved to eternal life. (Acts 23:11). After Paul's encounter with Jesus, he viewed himself as an ambassador for Christ, who God had trusted with the Gospel of reconciliation whereby all can be saved. (Gal. 1:14-16) (Acts 15:35-36). For Paul to live was to abide in Christ and serve him, and to die was gain. (Phil. 1:21-23). He was not only willing to sacrifice everything to know Christ, but he counted whatever he lost for Christ as rubbish.

**Paul's greatest desire and only ambition and sole focus was:**

- To be found in Christ, not having a righteousness of his own that comes from the law, but the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ. (Phil. 3:7-9).
- To bring the Gentiles to obedience, by word and deed. (Rom. 15:18) which is the ministry God called him to.
- To know Jesus and preach and teach Jesus. (1 Cor. 2:2).
- To know Christ and attain to the resurrection, he understood that he was not perfect (for we can never attain to God's holy perfection, and Jesus sinless character), but despite this he chose to forget what lies behind and press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**The Old Testament:** Paul often referred to the Old Testament Scriptures, and reasoned with them, but not to teach the Old Testament, but to prove that Jesus who he was proclaiming is the Messiah, and the Christ their fathers and prophets spoke of and said would come to pass, and Abraham's promised seed, Israel's Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ who descended from David according to the flesh, and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead. (Acts 9:22) (Acts 17:2-3) (Acts 18:27-28) (Acts 26:19-23) (Rom. 1:1-4).

#### **Paul's Gospel proclaims:**

- This present age is the age for salvation (2 Cor. 6:2), for God is reconciling Jews and Gentiles who have faith in Christ to Himself, to become one nation united-together in Christ (Rom. 16:25), not counting their trespasses against them. (2 Cor. 5:19-21). At this present time there is good seed (wheat) and bad seed (weeds) dwelling in the present spiritual Kingdom of faith. (Matt. 13:36-38).
- Jesus, is the Son of God. (Acts 9:18-20), and that redemption, justification, righteousness, eternal life, and grace are all a gift of God, for they all come by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and not by our self-effort and works. (Rom. 3:22-26).
- Through repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 20:20-21), we obtain access to God's grace, and in this grace, we can stand confidently and joyfully looking forward to sharing God's glory (Rom. 5:1-2), for the faithful are justified by Jesus' blood, and will be saved from the wrath of God. (Rom. 5:8-11).
- Through the grace of God, and by faith in Jesus Christ we are justified, and all who are justified receive as a free-gift an abundance of grace, so that righteousness that comes by faith in Christ reigns in life over death, for it is not by our own self-righteousness we are counted righteous, but because of Jesus' obedience that we are justified and made righteous, and granted eternal life. (Rom. 5:15-21).
- Whoever believe in their heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and confess that Jesus is Lord will be justified, and saved. (Rom. 10:9-11), for the righteous shall live by faith," meaning they trust in Christ's righteousness and God's grace to be to be counted righteous and saved to eternal life. (Rom. 1:16-17).
- A sinner seeking salvation needs to repent, accept Jesus and be water baptised (Rom. 10:17), for no one is justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, for all must believe in Christ Jesus, to be justified by faith (Gal. 2:16), for salvation is in Christ alone, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Rom. 10:13), and being saved Christ dwells in their heart by love and Spirit. (Col 1:27) (Col 2:2).

- Paul's entire message and focus is Jesus and the freedom we have in Christ (2 Cor. 10:7) (2 Cor. 2:12) (2 Cor. 10:14) (2 Cor. 10:16) (Gal. 2:2-5), and in the truth that works of the law cannot save a person, for all sinners must become a new creation in Christ to be saved (Gal. 6:14-15), and fully trust in the grace of God to be counted righteous and worthy of salvation, for if righteousness was attainable through the law, then Christ's death serves no purpose. (Gal. 2:18-21).
- The hope of the Gospel and the inheritance of all in Christ, is forgiveness of sin, redemption, justification, salvation, the resurrection from the dead, eternal life, and Israel's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 17:18) (Acts 23:6) (Acts 24:21) (2 Cor. 1:19-20) (Col. 1:22-23). Whoever is saved will not be put to shame (i.e., rejected) when Christ returns. (Rom. 10:9-11), for a crown of righteousness is laid up for the faithful," which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to all who have loved his appearing. (2 Tim. 4:6-8). All who endure to the end and remain faithful, will not be judged, but rather accepted, and will hear Christ's words, "well done good and faithful servant." (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

**At the end of Paul's ministry:** he states: he had fulfilled the ministry of the Gospel of Christ, and all things concerning him (1 Cor. 9:16), and that his joy was Christ was being proclaimed in all places (Philip. 1:18), and his reward was to preach the Gospel free of charge. (1 Cor. 9:18).

**CONCLUSION:** Paul's entire message and sole focus, teaching and preaching is upon Jesus, and how the redeemed in Christ should behave (Acts 9:20) (Acts 9:27-28) (Acts 16:10), and the focus of the word of the Lord in the New Testament is Christ, and all things concerning him. (Acts 14:21).

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For greater information, see the title:

- Gospel (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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