

The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel is the good news (Greek *euangelion*) means “good message”.

It is an announcement.

A proclamation of great joy for all people.

A new truth.

Although one could argue that **all** of Scripture contains indirect aspects of the Gospel, there are certain passages that *clearly state* the Gospel. Keep in mind that the Gospel wasn't really clear to anyone until after Jesus' resurrection (even Jesus' own disciples didn't understand that Jesus would rise from the dead until AFTER the resurrection- John 2v22; 13v7,19; 20v9). Below you will find a list of the clear and comprehensive explanations of the Gospel found in the New Testament:

9 Clear/Comprehensive Gospel Presentations by Followers of Jesus in the NT:

1) Acts 2v14-39:

Peter presents the Gospel to the God-fearing Jews gathered in Jerusalem at Pentecost.

2) Acts 3v12-26:

Peter presents the Gospel to Jews after healing a lame beggar.

3) Acts 4v8-12:

Peter presents the Gospel to religious leaders (Jews).

4) Acts 7v2-53:

Stephen presents the Gospel to religious leaders (Jews) before being killed by them.

5) Acts 10v34-43 (with 11v4-18):

Peter presents the Gospel to a Gentile named Cornelius and his family.

6) Acts 13v16-41:

Paul presents the Gospel in a synagogue to Jews scattered from Jerusalem in Antioch.

7) Acts 14v15-17:

After being rejected by Jews, Paul presents the Gospel to Gentiles in Lystra.

8) Acts 17v22-31:

Paul presents the Gospel to Gentile philosophers in Athens.

9) 1 Corinthians 15v1-22; 50-58:

Paul presents the Gospel to the Corinthian church in order to re-center them.

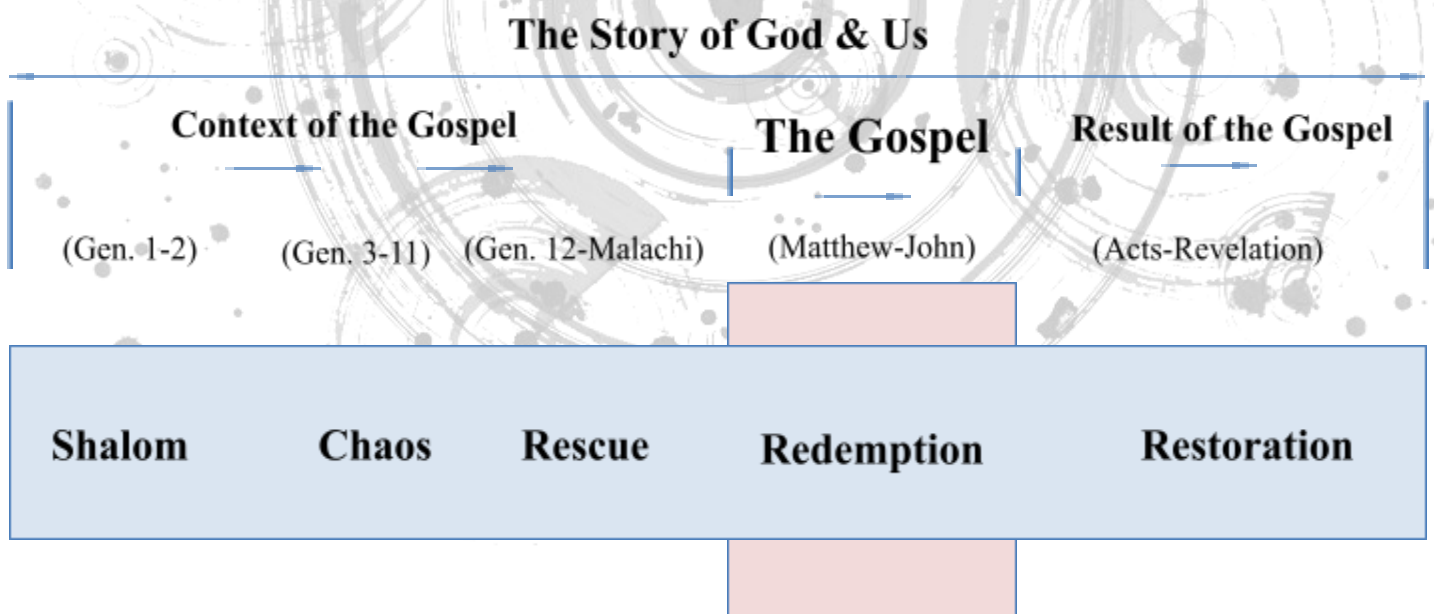
There are many more brief summaries of the Gospel in the NT. These statements are vague and generally intended to give a particular audience a way of generally thinking about the good news.

9 Concise Gospel Summaries by Followers of Jesus in the NT:

- 1) **Matthew 4v23:** Matthew describes the gospel (good news) of Jesus as being “of the kingdom.”
- 2) **Romans 1v1-6:** Paul opens his letter to the Romans with a Gospel summary beginning with the prophets.
- 3) **Romans 3v21-26:** Paul gives another Gospel summary involving justification and propitiation.
- 4) **Ephesians 2v1-9:** Paul gives a summary of the Gospel that includes being saved by grace through faith.
- 5) **Philippians 2v5-11:** Paul explains to the Philippian Christians what Jesus did for us in his death.
- 6) **Colossians 1v15-20:** Paul tells the church of Philippi about the identity of Jesus.
- 7) **1 Timothy 3v16:** Paul reminds Timothy of Jesus’ works.
- 8) **2 Timothy 2v8:** Paul tells Timothy about “his gospel.”
- 9) **1 Peter 3v18-22:** Peter summarizes the good news of Jesus.

An Announcement Within a Story

The Gospel is most easily understood as being a climactic announcement within a larger metanarrative. While the entire story of God & Us isn’t synonymous with the Gospel, it is difficult to truly understand the Gospel without a comprehension of the overall story. The following diagram shows the overall Story of God and Man broken into 5 Acts that follow the general progression of Scripture:



Each Act has important/essential truths that relate to the Gospel:

Act I: Creation (Shalom)

This Act describes the way creation was designed to function before things got complicated. Knowing our origin story and understanding the following three principles are central to knowing our identity and how we were created to live.

- **Principle #1: Who is God?** At the most general level, we understand that God is ever-present (Spirit) and God is love (good). In the narrative of Genesis 1-2, three specific qualities emerge:
 - **God is Sovereign**
 - *Genesis 1v1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*
 - *Psalms 135v6 "Whatever the LORD pleases, He does, In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps."*
 - *Jeremiah 10v10 "But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God"*
 - **God is Relational**
 - *Genesis 2v18 "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'"*
 - *Psalms 100v5 "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever"*
 - *1 John 4v18 "God is love"*
 - **God Empowers**
 - *Genesis 1v28-29 "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.' Then God said, 'I give you...'"*
 - *Isaiah 40v29 "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."*
- **Principle #2: Imago Dei**
 - **God created us in His image; meaning that we reflect Him in origin, essence, nature and gender.**
 - *Genesis 1v27 "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."*
- **Principle #3: God created us to live in shalom; defined by four good relationships:**
 - **Good relationship with God**
 - *Genesis 1v28 "And God blessed them. And God said to them..."*
 - *Jeremiah 9v24 "...but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me,*
that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight, declares the Lord."
 - *John 17v3 "Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God"*
 - **Good relationship with ourselves**
 - *Genesis 2v25 "they felt no shame"*
 - *Matthew 5v48 "be complete, as your Father is complete"*
 - *Mark 12v30 "Love God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your mind and with all of your strength"*
 - **Good relationship with others**
 - *Genesis 2v18 "I will make him a helper fit for him"*
 - *Genesis 2v24 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."*
 - *Mark 12v31 "Love your neighbor as yourself"*
 - **Good relationship with creation**
 - *Genesis 1v28 "Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*
 - *Romans 1v20 "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made"*

Act II: Fall (Chaos)

The second act introduces sin into the world; and the death, pain, suffering and other forms of chaos that consequently manifest. We each deeply experience the fallen nature of the world, but it is important to understand why it exists and what it truly stands for.

- **Principle #1: Who is Satan?**

- **The enemy of God.**

- *Genesis 3v1 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made."*
 - *Revelation 12v9 "The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him."*

- **A Liar/Deceiver/Tempter/Accuser**

- *Genesis 3v4--5 "'You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*
 - *John 8v44 "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."*

- **Principle #2: Sin is disobedience to God; the choice to NOT reflect His image.**

- *Genesis 2v16-17 "And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil..."*
 - *Genesis 3v6 "she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate."*
 - *1 John 3v4 "Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness"*
 - *Romans 3v23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"*

- **Principle #3: Our sin has brought our death (separation).**

- *Genesis 2v17 "...for when you eat from it you will certainly die."*
 - *Romans 6v23 "the wages of sin is death"*

Act III: Rescue

Because of the choice to sin, mankind deserved death (physical and spiritual separation from God). But God seems to have a temporary rescue plan to begin the process of redeeming those who desire to be with God. Without the presence of the God and His Kingdom on earth, we are left with 3 immediately crucial problems:

Problem #1: We do not know God's sovereignty. We were made to live under the authority of the one true, living God. Without Him, we don't have clarity, direction or vision on how to live our lives the we were intended to live.

Problem #2: Sin has severed our relationship with God. Until or unless we the wages of sin are paid, we are enemies of God; destined to spend eternity in accordance with what Adam and Even chose in the garden...apart from God.

Problem #3: We are no longer empowered to partner with God as we were designed. In being disconnected with God, we have lost our ministry, our mission, our priesthood as co-laborers in His kingdom. We now lack purpose and power.

God, in His grace and mercy, gives a rescue plan to a people set apart for Him:

- **Principle #1: God gives the Law as a path to understanding righteousness under God's sovereignty.**
 - o Exodus 20 - Deuteronomy 30 (the 613 commandments)
 - o Deuteronomy 30v11,14 *"For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off...But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it."*
 - o Romans 7:7 *"What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, 'You shall not covet.'"*
- **Principle #2: God invites us into a relationship with Him via the atoning blood sacrifice of animals.**
 - o Leviticus 23v12 *"... you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the Lord a lamb a year old without defect"*
 - o Hebrews 10v1-4 *"The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins"*
- **Principle #3: God meets with us in the temple and empowers people as priests in His kingdom**
 - o Exodus 40v34-35 *"Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle."*
 - o Exodus 40v15 *"And it shall be for them an appointment as priests forever, for all generations."*
 - o Joel 1v13 *Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests, wail, O ministers of the altar.
Go in, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God!
Because grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.*

Act IV: Redemption

Through faith in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ (Lord, Savior and King) and his works (his life, death and resurrection) we may know God, resulting in:

- **Life/Freedom** (we are no longer left to our own, but guided by the LORD to live life to the full)
- **Love/Identity** (the Savior has been sacrificed, our sins are forgiven and relationship restored)
- **Authority/Power** (we are the new temple; empowered as priests in God's kingdom)

This is the Gospel. Detailed verses are available later in this document as take a closer look at the Gospel.

Act V: Restoration

The redeemed in Christ are invited to live within the dynamic reality of the kingdom of God. It is a kingdom that is "already and not yet" here. We experience the presence of the kingdom at hand (Mark 1v15), invite the advancement of the kingdom as God wills (Matthew 6v10) and await the final restoration of the kingdom fully (Luke 19 v11-12). The following three principles complete the overall Story of God and Us.

- **Principle #1: The Church is the presence of Jesus within a spiritual family of believers who advance the kingdom of God to the ends of the earth**
 - *Matthew 18v15,17 "If a brother or sister sins...tell it to the church"*
 - *Matthew 16v18 "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it"*
- **Principle #2: Jesus will return and judgment will follow; evil will be destroyed**
 - *Hebrews 9v28 "So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him."*
 - *1 Corinthians 3v13 "the fire will test the quality of each man's work"*
 - *Revelation 20v12-14 "And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire."*
- **Principle #3: God will create a new heaven and new earth and we will dwell with Him forever in complete shalom.**
 - *Revelation 21v1-5 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*
 - *He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"*

The Story of God & Us

God inspired the authors of Scripture by his Spirit to speak to all generations of believers, including us today. God calls us to immerse ourselves in this authoritative narrative communally and individually; to faithfully interpret and live out that story today as we are led by the Spirit of God.

God is real. God is alive. God is good. God is love. God has and always will be in a communal relationship with himself – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Before the creation of earth, God also existed in relationship with angels. After a rebellion led by an angel by the name of Lucifer, some angels were separated from God as payment for their sin.

In the beginning of the physical cosmos, God created all things good. God created humans in his image. We were made to reflect God in our origin, our essence (spirit), our nature (love) and even our gender. He created us to be relational as well; to live in fellowship with him, one another, ourselves, and creation. He marked us with an identity and a missional calling to reproduce ourselves and to live the shalom of heaven here on the earth.

The Enemy (Satan) tempted the first humans. When they sinned, darkness and evil entered the story and are now a part of the world. This devastating event resulted in our relationships with God, others, ourselves, and creation being fractured. As with the fallen angels, the payment for our sin meant eternal separation from the God of love.

We believe God did not abandon his creation to destruction and decay; rather he promised to restore what was lost. As part of this purpose, God chose Abraham and his descendants to represent him in the world. God promised to bless them as a nation so that through them all nations would be blessed. In time they became enslaved in Egypt and cried out to God because of their oppression. God heard their cry, liberated them from their oppressor, and brought them to Sinai where he gave them an identity and a mission as his treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, a holy people. Throughout the story of Israel, God refused to give up on his people despite their frequent acts of unfaithfulness to him.

God brought his people into the Promised Land. Their state of blessing from God was intimately bound to their calling to embody the living God to other nations. They moved toward this missional calling, yet they disobeyed as they allowed foreign gods into the land, overlooked the poor, and mistreated the foreigner. The prophetic voices that emerged from the Scriptures held the calling of Israel to the mirror of how they treated the oppressed and marginalized. Through the prophets, it was made known that God cares deeply for the poor among us. We believe God's heart is the same today.

In Israel's disobedience, they became indifferent and irrelevant to the purposes to which God had called them. For a time, they were sent into exile. Yet a hopeful remnant was always looking ahead with longing and hope to a renewed reign of God, where peace and justice would prevail.

We believe these longings found their fulfillment in Jesus the Messiah, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, mysteriously God in the flesh. Jesus came to preach good news to the lost, to mend the broken, to provide for the poor and to free the oppressed. All of this was done to proclaim a new arrival of the Kingdom of God, bringing about a New Exodus, and restoring our fractured world. Jesus (and his message) was rejected by many as he confronted the oppressive nature of the religious elite and the empire of Rome. Yet his path of teaching, suffering, crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection has brought redemption to all creation. Jesus has brought peace and reconciliation between God and humanity. Through Jesus we have been redeemed into right relationship with God and have been invited into the eventual full restoration of our relationship with God, each other, ourselves, and creation. Jesus' resurrection from the dead brought about a new priesthood among those who trust Him. The Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now indwells believers. The Spirit empowers, convicts, guides, comforts, counsels, and empowers us. In Jesus, we now have the Lord, Savior and King we long for.

The church is the local and global expression of Jesus Christ. We are the physical body of Jesus here on earth. We are tasked with advancing His kingdom in our own lives and to the ends of the earth.

We believe the day is coming when Jesus will return to judge the world, bringing an end to injustice and restoring all things to God's original intent. God will reclaim this world and rule forever. The earth's groaning will cease and God will dwell with us here in a restored creation. On that day we will beat swords into tools for cultivating the earth, the wolf will lie down with the lamb, there will be no more death and God will wipe away all our tears. Our relationships with God, others, ourselves and creation will be whole. All will flourish as God intends. This is what we long for. This is what we hope for. And we are giving our lives to living out that future reality now.

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The Gospel (10,000 foot view)

There are a number of general overview statements that describe the Gospel. If left alone, these statements require explanation (or supernatural revelation) in order to bring about understanding.

- The Gospel is the good news concerning the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ resulting in the redemption of mankind.
- The Gospel is an announcement of the Kingdom of God at hand.
- The Gospel is the reconciliation of mankind to God.
- The Gospel is the movement from death to life; blind to seeing; isolation to adoption; lost to found.
- The Gospel is the invitation to know God.

The Gospel (100 foot view)

Understanding the Essential Components of the Gospel

The Gospel is the message that the Kingdom of God at hand; the good message that the Lord Jesus Christ:

- **Lived as Lord**

Jesus is called Immanuel, "God with us" (Matthew 1v23). God put on flesh and blood and took residence on the earth. (John 1v14). The creator of all things (John 1v3) came and walked around creation.

Jesus is **LORD**:

- o For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God..." (Isaiah 9v6)
- o "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, (Colossians 1v15-19)

A lord is a master. Jesus is "Lord of lords" (1 Timothy 6v15, Revelation 17v14, Revelation 19v16), meaning he is the sovereign master over all of the other masters. Jesus is clear about his identity in the following passages:

- o "You do not know me or my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." (John 8v19)
- o "'I tell you the truth,' Jesus answered, 'before Abraham was born, I am!'" (John 8v58; see also Exodus 3v13-15).
- o "I and the Father are one" (John 10v30).
- o "Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, 'Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me'" (John 7v28-29).
- o "'If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.' Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe in the evidence of the miracles themselves. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.'" (John 14v7-11, 20).
- o "After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: 'Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began'" (John 17v1-5).

- **Died as Savior**

Jesus was tortured and crucified on a cross (John 18-19). Jesus is the **Savior**; he voluntarily acted as the sacrificial Lamb (John 1v29) to pay the wages for our sins (Hebrews 10v1-10):

- o "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;" (Isaiah 53v5)
- o "And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world." 1 John 4v14)

A savior removes someone from danger. In this case, mankind sinned and entered into the danger of eternal death. Jesus died to save us by taking on the death of mankind. Jesus is clear about his identity in the following passages:

- "for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26v28
- "And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly." Mark 8v31-32
- "And Jesus said to them, 'You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" (Mark 14v27)

- **Resurrected as King**

Jesus raised from the dead (John 20, 1 Corinthians 15v3-7). He overcame death (1 Corinthians 15v12-56) and is alive (Mark 16v19). Jesus is **King**:

- o "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son" (Colossians 1v13)
- o "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom..." (1 Timothy 4v1)
- o "For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1v11)

While a "lord" directs, a "**king**" empowers the citizens of the kingdom. As Jesus is "Lord of lords", he is also "King of kings" (1 Timothy 6v15, Revelation 1v5, Revelation 17v14). Jesus expresses the importance of the coming kingdom nearly 90 times in the 4 accounts of the Gospel and explains directly after his resurrection that he has been given "all authority" (Matt 28v18). Jesus is also clear about his identity in the following passages:

- o "Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.'...But he was speaking about the temple of his body." (John 2v19-21)
- o "Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.'" (John 18v36)
- o "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'" (Matthew 28v18-20)

Acceptance of the Gospel

While an understanding of the Gospel is necessary, we do not enter into salvation simply by *knowing about* the Gospel. We are saved by grace (Gospel) **through faith** (Ephesians 2v4-6). To have faith is to stand or rely on something, even if it isn't tangible or seen.

- **Faith in Jesus as Lord:**

To receive salvation requires that you would humble yourself to understand your condition and God's gift. From a place of humility, claim that Jesus is LORD (and you aren't). Salvation also depends upon repentance towards Jesus as Lord. Repentance is a change of mind from the old ways to the new ways (Acts 3v19). *NOTE: No work or action of any kind is necessary in order to call Jesus "Lord," but simply a definitive decision to place Him in charge of your life.*

- ***Faith in Jesus as Savior:***

To receive salvation requires that you would trust in the work of Christ to atone, or wash away, your sin (1 John 2v2, 1 Peter 3v18). Confession is about sorrow over sin (1 John 1v9 and 2 Corin 7v10). Faith in the Savior means choosing to accept your adoption and taking on your new identity of a permanent member in God's family (Ephesians 1v5, Romans 8v15, Galatians 4v6). Faith also means knowing your standing with God is secure (John 5v24, John 10v28, John 4v14).

- ***Faith in Jesus as King:***

To receive salvation, you must believe that you are given the victory of God through Christ over sin and death (1 Corin 15v54, Romans 8v37). Standing upon Jesus' resurrection means you are a person of hope (1 Peter 1v3, 1 Peter 1v21).

Salvation Through the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit of God enters a person at salvation (Acts 2v38, Romans 8v2-9, 1 Corinthians 3v16) and accomplishes the work of salvation (Titus 3v5, 2 Thess. 2v13, 1 Peter 1v2, John 3v5, Ephesians 1v13, 1 Corinthians 12v3, Galatians 3v2-5, Galatians 3v14, etc.)

Salvation By the Gospel

Salvation means some sort of fundamental change has occurred within us that is not a direct result of our works/actions. From the moment that faith is placed in the works of the Lord Jesus Christ, a person's identity is intrinsically changed (with maturity comes a deeper awareness of the gravity of this change).

- ***Jesus is Your Lord:***

The result (or "Good News") of placing faith in Christ as LORD is true freedom; guidance by the Holy Spirit into life as it is intended under the authority of God. Jesus now leads you in order that you might have life and life to the fullest (James 1v25, Gal 5v13-14, Rom 8v1-2, John 10v10). Salvation grants immediate freedom in Christ available to all who stand upon the Gospel.

- ***Jesus is Your Savior:***

The result of faith in Jesus as Savior is that you are immediately forgiven and adopted into intimacy with God through the Holy Spirit (John 17v3, Colossians 1v13-14, Matthew 26v28). Sin no longer separates you from God. Jesus has paid for all sin past, present and future and now you stand as a child of the Heavenly Father.

- ***Jesus is Your King:***

The result of faith in Jesus as King is power (Matt 28v19, Romans 1v16, Romans 15v13). You now possess the ability to break the chains of sin in your life. Death is no longer something to be feared...it is something you have sure victory over. You are granted access to the Spirit as a citizen of God's kingdom that allows you, in accordance with the King's will, to live with immeasurable power; more than you've ever imagined.

The good news can be summed up in three words:

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to know God
(John 17v3).

Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, **we may know God** through His instruction (Lord), His forgiveness (Savior) and by embodying His authority/power (King).

Abiding in the Gospel

The Gospel is not a past event and future event only; it is a present reality. We are called to remain in the vine at all times (John 15). Practical abiding is the reciprocal interactions we have on a daily basis with the Lord, Savior and King through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us.

The GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST			
The Person	The Work	Faith Expressed (Belief) Ephesians 2v4-9	Result (Salvation) = To Know God (John 17v3)
Lord Acts 2v21 Rev 17v14	He lived Matt 1v23	Humility (submission to God) Luke 18v14 / 1 Peter 5v5-6 Trust in Jesus as Your Lord Romans 10v9 / John 20v28 / Acts 10:36	Truth/Freedom John 14:6; 8:12; 8:32; John 16:13 1 John 1:5-6; 5:20

		Repentance (change of mind) Matthew 5v17 / 2 Peter 3v9 / Luke 5v32	1 Peter 2:16 Romans 6:22 Galatians 5:1 2 Corinthians 3:17
Savior Acts 13v23 John 4v42	He died Matthew 27v50	Confession (admission of guilt) 1 John 1v9 / 2 Corinthians 7v10 Trust in Jesus as Your Savior Romans 3v23-25, 5v1-2 / 1 Peter 2v24 Receive Adoption (eternal security) John 1v12, 3v3 / Eph 1v5 / 1 John 4v15-18 / Romans 8v15	Intimacy/Identity 1 John 3v1-2 2 Corinthians 5v17 Romans 8v1-2, 37-39 John 10v28 Hebrews 10v19-22 Ephesians 3v16-19 John 17v3
King Matthew 28v18 Revelation 19v16	He resurrected Matthew 28v7	Dependence on God (not self) John 3v30 / Romans 8v6, 10-11 / Galatian 2v20 / 2 Corinthians 4v7 Trust in Jesus as Your King Ephesians 1v18-21 / Hebrews 12v28-29 / Philippians 2v20-21 / Ephesians 4v24 Victory Won (over sin and death) 1 Corin 15v51-57 / Rom 8v37-39	Authority/Power Matthew 28v18-20 1 Peter 2v9 Acts 1v8 Romans 1v16; 15v13 1 Corin 4v20, 15v51-57 Philippians 3v10 2 Timothy 1v7

Scripture References:

The Name: “The LORD JESUS CHRIST”

- o Acts: 11v17, 15v26, 20v21, 28v31
- o Romans: 1v7, 5v1, 5v11, 13v14, 15v6, 15v30, 16v20
- o 1 Corinthians: 1v2, 1v3, 1v7, 1v8, 1v10, 6v11, 8v6, 15v57
- o 2 Corinthians: 1v2, 1v3, 8v9, 13v14
- o Galatians 1v3, 6v14, 6v18,
- o Ephesians: 1v2, 1v3, 1v17, 5v20, 6v23, 6v24
- o Philippians: 1v22, 3v20, 4v23
- o Colossians: 1v3
- o 1 Thessalonians: 1v1, 1v3, 5v9, 5v23, 5v28
- o 2 Thessalonians: 1v1, 1v2, 1v12, 2v1, 2v14, 2v16, 3v6, 3v12, 3v18,
- o 1 Timothy: 6v3, 6v14,
- o Philemon: 1v3, 1v25
- o James: 1v1, 2v1
- o 1 Peter: 1v3
- o 2 Peter: 1v8, 1v14, 1v16
- o Jude: 1v4, 1v17, 1v21

LORD

Acts 2:21

“And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Revelation 17:14

“he is Lord of lords...and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

HE LIVED

Matthew 1:23

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel (which means, **God with us**)”

Faith Expressed: HUMILITY (Submission to God)

Luke 18:14

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who **humbles** himself will be exalted.”

1 Peter 5:5-6

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the **humble**.”

“**Humble** yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,”

Faith Expressed: TRUST in Jesus as YOUR LORD

Romans 10:9

“because, if you confess with your mouth that **Jesus is Lord**...you will be saved.”

John 20:28

“Thomas answered him, ‘**My Lord** and my God!’”

Acts 10:36

“As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is **Lord of all**)”

Faith Expressed: REPENTANCE (change of mind)

Matthew 4:17

“From that time on Jesus began to preach, ‘**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’”

2 Peter 3:9

“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to **repentance**.”

Luke 5:32

“I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to **repentance**.”

Salvation = TRUTH/FREEDOM

John 14v6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the **truth**, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me

John 8:12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the **light of life**.”

John 8v32

And you will know the **truth**, and the truth will set you free.”

John 16v13

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the **truth**, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

1 John 1v5-6 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is **light**; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

1 John 5v20

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

1 Peter 2v16 Live as **free** people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

John 8:36

"So if the Son sets you **free**, you will be **free** indeed."

Galatians 5:1

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

Romans 6:22

"But now that you have been set **free** from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

2 Corinthians 3:17

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**."

Savior

Acts 13:23

"Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a **Savior**, Jesus, as he promised."

John 4:42

"we know that this is indeed the **Savior** of the world"

HE DIED

Matthew 27:50

"And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit."

Faith Expressed: Confession

1 John 1:9

"If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2 Corinthians 7:10

"For **godly grief** produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death."

Faith Expressed: TRUST in Jesus as YOUR SAVIOR

Radius Greenville /// The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 3v23-25 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom **God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.**

Romans 5v1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that **we might die to sin and live to righteousness.** By his wounds you have been healed.

Ephesians 5:1-2

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.”

Faith Expressed: Receive Adoption

John 1:12

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”

John 3:3

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Ephesians 1:5

“he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will”

1 John 4:15-18

“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 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. 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. 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.”

Romans 8:15

“For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’”

IDENTITY/INTIMACY

1 John 3:1-2

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Romans 8:1-2

“There is therefore now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.”

John 10:28

“I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and **no one will snatch them out of my hand.**”

Romans 8:37-39

“in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able **to separate us from the love of God** in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Hebrews 10:19-22

“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us **draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

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, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

John 17:3

“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

KING

Revelation 19:16

“On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings...”

Matthew 28:18

“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.’”

RESURRECTED

Matthew 28:7

“Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”

Faith Expressed: Dependence on God (not self)

John 3:30

“He must increase, but I must decrease”

Romans 8:6

“For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace”

Galatians 2:20

“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.”

Romans 8v10-11

“But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.”

2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Faith Expressed: TRUST in Jesus as YOUR KING

Ephesians 1:18-21

“having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is 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, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.”

Hebrews 12v28-29

“Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.”

Philippians 3v20-21

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”

Ephesians 4:24

And to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

AUTHORITY/POWER/VICTORY

Matthew 28v20

“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age”

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 1:16

“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.”

Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

1 Corinthians 4:20

“For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.”

2 Timothy 1:7

“for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”

Philippians 3:10

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death”

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

“Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’

‘O death, where is your victory?’

‘O death, where is your sting?’

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”