



Defending Doctrinal Distinctives The Gospel of Repentance and Faith (Part 1)

Mark D. Twombly, Calvary Community Church, Somerset, NJ
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“Now after John had been delivered up into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent and believe in the gospel.””**

(Mark 1:14-15, LSB, with emphasis)

“Therefore **as you received** Christ Jesus the Lord, **so walk** in Him, having been firmly rooted and being built up in Him, and having been established in your faith—
just as you were instructed—
and abounding with thanksgiving.”

(Colossians 2:6-7, LSB, with emphasis)

““And this **gospel of the kingdom** shall be proclaimed in the whole world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

(Jesus, Matthew 24:14, LSB, with emphasis)

“I marvel that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ for a **different gospel**, which is really not another, only there are some who are disturbing you and want to **distort the gospel** of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should proclaim to you a **gospel contrary to the gospel we have proclaimed to you**, let him be accursed! As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is proclaiming to you a **gospel contrary** to what you received, let him be accursed! For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a slave of Christ.”

(The Apostle Paul, Galatians 1:6-10, LSB)

Lesson(s) Outline

- Topic Review
- Week 1:
 - Foundations: What is the Gospel?
 - Repentance & Faith: Receiving the Gospel
 - Repentance & Faith: Living the Gospel
 - Q&A
- Week 2:
 - Repentance & Faith: Assurance in the Gospel
 - Contending for the Faith: The True Gospel
 - Q&A

Exercise: What is the Gospel?

““Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God.”
(Jesus, from the Parable of the Sower, Luke 8:11, LSB)

“...for you have been born again not of corruptible seed
but incorruptible, that is, through
the living and enduring word of God.”
(1 Peter 1:23, LSB)

Your answer must be from the Scriptures,
God's perfect seed of eternal life!

What is the Gospel?

“Now I make known to you, brothers, the gospel which I proclaimed as good news to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I proclaimed to you as good news, unless you believed for nothing. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”
(The Apostle Paul, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, LSB)

What is the Gospel?

“Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you exhorting that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.”

(Jude 1:3, LSB)

*As a treasure and stewardship from God,
the Gospel must be transmitted to others faithfully.*

What is the Gospel?

Gospel: Gr. εὐαγγέλιον, euaggélion. The proclamation of good news, spoken in the N.T. only of the glad tidings of Christ and His salvation. It is the news of the eternal kingdom of God, i.e. the rule which God establishes in the hearts of men when Jesus Christ is received by faith. It also refers to the kingdom in its future state during which the believers will reign with Christ forever (Rev 22:1-5). For Paul and the Apostles, it refers also to God's eternal plan of salvation and the work of proclaiming it.

This word appears 77 times in the N.T.

Exercise: What is Salvation?

““For Your salvation I hope, O Yahweh.”

(Jacob, Genesis 49:18, LSB)

“Sing to Yahweh, bless His name;

Proclaim good news of His salvation from day to day.”

(Psalms 96:2, LSB)

*As we saw from previous lessons,
Salvation has been God’s plan from eternity past,
and extends into eternity future.*

What is Salvation?

Salvation: Heb. יְשׁוּעָה, yešû`āh: A feminine noun meaning salvation, deliverance, help, victory, prosperity. The primary meaning is to rescue from distress or danger...being rescued from the punishment due for sin (Psa 70:4 [5]; Isa 33:6; Isa 49:6; Isa 52:7)...God's salvation (2Sa 22:51; Psa 42:5 [6]; Psa 116:13).

This word appears 80 times in the O.T.

What Are We Saved From?

“executing vengeance on those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, AWAY FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD AND FROM THE GLORY OF HIS MIGHT,”
(2 Thessalonians 1:8-9, LSB)

““But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and sexually immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.””
(Revelation 21:8, LSB)

What Are We Saved From?

““Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

(Jesus, John 5:24, LSB)

“For God has not appointed us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,”

(1 Thessalonians 5:9, LSB)

Evangelism

“But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship,
do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”
(2 Timothy 4:5, LSB)

God has given some evangelists to the church (Ephesians 4:11)

God has given all believers the responsibility of evangelism.

Summary: What is the Gospel?

An invitation to be accepted, e.g. Matthew 22:1-14

A command to be obeyed, e.g. Acts 17:30, 2 Thes. 1:8

An eternal plan to trust, e.g. Acts 7, 17:24-27

What is Repentance?

Repentance: Gr. μετάνοια, metánoia; gen. metanoías, fem. noun from metanoéo (G3340), to repent. A change of mind, repentance (Heb 12:17).

““Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;”
(John the Baptist, Matthew 3:8, LSB)

What is Repentance?

“Let the wicked forsake his way
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
And let him return to Yahweh,
And He will have compassion on him,
And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.”
(Isaiah 55:7, LSB)

What is Repentance?

“And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself,
and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”
(Jesus, Luke 9:23, LSB)

““Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;”
(John the Baptist, Matthew 3:8, LSB)

Repentance is not a work, but it is an internal change of mind whose results are obvious.

What is Faith?

Faith: Gr. Πίστις, πίστις; gen. πίστεως, fem. noun from πείθω (G3982), to win over, persuade. Faith. Subjectively meaning firm persuasion, conviction, belief in the truth, veracity, reality or faithfulness (though rare). Objectively meaning that which is believed, doctrine, the received articles of faith.

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.”

(Hebrews 11:1, LSB)

Repentance and Faith: Gifts of God

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;”

(Ephesians 2:8, LSB)

““This One God exalted to His right hand as a Leader and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.”

(Acts 5:31, LSB)

Repentance & Faith: Living the Gospel

“Therefore as **you received** Christ Jesus the Lord, **so walk** in Him, having been firmly rooted and being built up in Him, and having been established in your faith—just as you were instructed—and abounding with thanksgiving.”

(Colossians 2:6-7, LSB, with emphasis)

How have we received *Through repentance and faith.*

Him?

How do we walk in Him? *By repentance and faith.*

Repentance & Faith: Living the Gospel

“And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself,
and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”
(Jesus, Luke 9:23, LSB)

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”
(Galatians 2:20, NAS95)

From Calvary's Statement of Faith

Regeneration: We teach that regeneration is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which the divine nature and divine life are given (John 3:3-8; Titus 3:5; 2 Peter 1:4). It is instantaneous and is accomplished solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the word of God (John 5:24), when the repentant sinner, as enabled by the Holy Spirit, responds in faith to the divine provision of salvation.

(From [Calvary SOF](#), Chapter 4, Point 3)

Implications and Application

- If someone were to ask you today, 'What is the Gospel?', how would you answer?
- If someone were to ask you today, 'What is Salvation?', how would you answer? What are we saved from? What are we saved to?
- Are repentance and faith works that we can perform?

For Next Week

- What truths are essential to communicate the Gospel?
- What is 'Lordship Salvation' and is it biblical?
- Is the doctrine of hell unloving?
- Can you lose your salvation?
- Others: Send your questions to mark@calvaryem.org

“Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
Let those who love Your salvation say continually,
“Yahweh be magnified!””

(Psalms 40:16, LSB)