

# Gospel of the Godhead

(Rom 1:1)

- Read introduction- Rom 1:1-15
- Paul has told us about himself in a threefold description, and now he will begin to tell us about what and Who he has been separated unto
- I. Gospel of God-** We seem to have come to the point where we almost bypass this word as a technical term, and some in fact have even made it a proper noun
  - A) Gospel** - “good news” but to simply stop here is to miss the forest for the trees, or to stop at the letter and miss the spirit
    - 1) Immediately** we need to question ourselves and ask, “Is it the good news (best news) to me?”
  - B) What the gospel is not**
    - 1) The gospel is not an afterthought** when Israel failed under the Law
      - i.** Rev 14:6- The everlasting gospel
      - ii.** Gal 3:8- The gospel preached unto Abraham
      - iii.** Heb 4:2- The gospel preached unto the Israelites of old
    - 2) The gospel isn’t simply the announcement** that God will now forgive sin
      - i.** The Old Testament is full of the forgiveness of sin
        - a)** Lev 4:20, 26, 31, 35, 5:10, 13, 16, 18, Num 14:19, 15:25-28, etc.
        - b)** Psa 32:1- Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven
        - c)** Psa 85:2- Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of Thy people
    - 3) The gospel is not a personal appeal** to us to “do” anything
      - i.** “Be moral” or “reform your manners” and God will have you
        - a)** If this be the gospel then it is not good news but the “worst news”
        - b)** This is the understanding of the Law known as the “letter of the law”
          - 1.** If this be the gospel, then the Sermon on the Mount is the worst news in all of history
          - 2.** This would be like saying “you have a deadly disease and there is no possible cure”
          - 3.** This is the work of the Law in a child of God known as the “spirit of bondage”
            - (a)** Rom 8:14-16- Spirit of bondage -vs- spirit of adoption
            - (b)** Gal 4:1-6- All heirs start under bondage
      - ii.** Paul had been a teacher of this message of the “letter” as a Pharisee
        - a)** The most zealous herald of the “bad news” becomes the most ardent preacher of the “good news”
- II. The Gospel of God-** The gospel is concerning (*of*) God and what He has already done where man is concerned
  - A) Rom 1:16-17-** The gospel is the power of God unto salvation and the means whereby God has made His righteousness available to fallen man

- B)** The gospel is “new” only in the sense in that the things prophesied had just recently been performed
  - 1)** And the “new” method of dispensing this good news was the real and full revelation and exposition that God’s righteousness was now being extended to all men, Jew and Gentile alike, without the deeds of the Law
    - i.** Luke 2:10- “Good tidings of great joy” = Gospel
- C)** Can we say that this is the greatest news which has ever come to us, and the one thing with which we would never part? If not, why???
- 1)** There is either something wrong with our understanding of God or of self
  - i.** We must see and own the horror of our sin, otherwise the good news is not so good, and we must also see God’s righteous penalty concerning sin
    - a)** If man lessens God’s hatred and punishment of sin, as in the teaching of “no hell,” then that man detracts from the gospel’s power
    - b)** If man makes the gospel simply the escape of hell, then he detracts from the gospel’s glory
- 2)** Rom 8:31-39- Paul was writing to these Romans who had believed upon the Lord Jesus Christ and he wants to make certain they understand fully what is the height and depth of the love of God towards them

**III.** The Gospel of God- The gospel is called by many terms, but above all it is the gospel “of God”

- A)** Paul can’t even begin his introduction without immediately bringing in the Godhead, and can’t speak of the gospel without Father, Son and Holy Spirit
  - 1)** Rom 1:1-4- The Gospel of God is the good news concerning what the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have done on the behalf of man
  - 2)** Eph 1:1-14- The Father planned it, the Son worked it out and the Holy Spirit applies it to us
- B)** We must beware of limiting the gospel or Christianity to any One of the Trinity
  - 1)** Father only- So many speak only of “God” or the “Creator”
    - i.** Muslims do this, as do Jews, Catholics and most of the cults
      - a)** To seek God the Father without Christ is useless
      - b)** To seek Christ without the Spirit is useless
      - c)** To seek Spirit without the Father is useless
        - 1.** Like the 3 elements necessary for fire, none can be diminished or missing
    - ii.** These never pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - 2)** Son only- This is quite common among those that call themselves fundamental and also dispensational
    - i.** There are many that believe to preach the gospel is only to preach Christ
    - ii.** They also portray God the Father to be uninvolved today, almost as if He has all on autopilot

