

The Content of the Gospel

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I. Introduction.

A. The gospel is of divine origin. (Romans 1:1)

B. It is important that we know what the gospel is because Paul says that anyone preaching a false gospel should be damned forever. (Galatians 1:6)

C. The Four Gospels are called “Gospel” because they are the story or good news of Jesus Christ. (Mark 1:1)

II. The gospel reveals the righteousness of God.

A. If you want to learn something about the righteousness of God then you have to go to the gospel.

B. In the gospel, the great characteristics of God are revealed.

III. The gospel is not only the message of salvation—it is the very instrument the Spirit uses to bring people to Christ.

IV. Though the gospel is the only means to reveal Christ, it has been entrusted to men. (I Thessalonians 2:4)

V. The gospel is the good news of Christ, of peace, of the grace of God, of the glory of Christ, of the kingdom. (Romans 15:19, I Corinthians 9:12, Acts 20:24, Ephesians 6:15, Ephesians 1:15, II Corinthians 4:4, Matthew 4:23, Matthew 11, Mark 1:14-15)

VI. We must pray for the anointing to preach the gospel. (Luke 4:18)

VII. The content of the gospel. (I Corinthians 15:3-4)

A. Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose on the third day.

B. The apostles preached a living Christ who had died for sins in history. (Acts 16:10, Acts 2:23-24, Acts 3, Acts 4:10)

C. The apostles were convinced that preaching the gospel was the all-important message to preach. (Acts 8:4)

D. We must share the gospel.

E. The gospel has power.

F. A person is filled with the fullness of God when he receives the gospel because in Jesus Christ is all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3)

VIII. The gospel is good news because we have been delivered from the power of darkness, redemption and forgiveness. (Colossians 1:13)

A. The gospel gives mercy—God keeping from us what we rightfully deserve—condemnation and hell.

B. The gospel gives grace—God giving to us what we do not deserve—heaven.

IX. We have been legally justified through the gospel providing peace with God. When a person comes to Jesus, his legal standing before God is changed through God’s legal declaration. (Galatians 1, Romans 5:1)

X. The price of the gospel. (II Corinthians 5:20-21)

A. Christ was made sin for us.

B. The gospel is a free gift for which someone paid a terrible price.

Application questions:

1. How does Galatians 1:6 show the importance of getting the gospel right?

2. What is the effect of receiving the gospel?

3. In light of the message, what would you tell a nonbeliever when sharing the gospel and what Scripture would you use?
