

...my Gospel...

## A. ...in conclusion...

Paul's **PURPOSE** in Romans==the **FULL SCOPE OF THE GOSPEL**

**Romans 1:1** *Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God...*

*Paul concludes with a **doxology**, a praise to God for the Gospel*

**READ ROMANS 16; 25-27**

Paul's doxology summarizes what he has already said in this letter:

1. The Gospel is from God=*Now to Him*
2. The Gospel is the power of God=*...Who is able...*
3. The Gospel is God's means to accomplish His purpose=*to establish you according to my gospel...*
4. The Gospel is about God's Son, transmitted through preaching=*the preaching of Jesus Christ...*
5. The Gospel is God's promise through the Scriptures=*according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, 26 but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known...*
6. The Gospel is for all=*to all the nations...*
7. The Gospel results in holy living=*leading to obedience of faith...*
8. The Gospel declares the wisdom and glory of God=*to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen.*

## B. The Gospel....

Paul's emphasis in this doxology is the Gospel:

Let's refresh ourselves about the Gospel.

Possibly the greatest danger to the church is **our ignorance** of or *lack of belief*

in the **CENTRALITY** and **APPLICATION** of the Gospel

The result:

1. the salvation of the lost is at stake
2. our ability to live effectively for God's glory is weakened.

Paul was determined that the church know and understand the Gospel

*Paul knew* the importance of the Gospel:

*He knew* that the gospel is God's only way of making Himself known and understood

*He knew* that the Gospel is the of our walking for God's glory and honor.

*He knew* that the gospel is the power of God to accomplish God's purpose.

*He knew* that **APART FROM GOSPEL, NO ONE CAN BE SAVED AND WITHOUT A CORRECT UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOSPEL, THE SAVED CANNOT PLEASE GOD.**

*He knew* that only through the Gospel is the glory of God displayed.

in **Romans 1:16** *...I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God unto salvation...*

**Therefore**, *it is imperative that we understand the Gospel so that our lives will be pleasing to God.*

## C. What is the Gospel?

Greek = *Euangelion* meaning “good news”

Gospel tells us Who God is and what He does

It is the display of His glory

**2 Cor. 4:4**...*the Gospel of the glory of Christ...*

The Gospel reveals glory of God’s grace through the redemption of fallen man.

The Gospel has to do with God’s total interaction in our lives, beginning with creation and continuing with our salvation and sanctification, culminating in our glorification with Christ in heaven.

**APART FROM THE GOSPEL, GOD DOES NOTHING.**

#### **D. Only One Gospel from beginning to end.**

As we have seen, there are many attempts to deny the truth and power of the Gospel through denials of its content and lies about its historic and current activities.

**The enemy of God is unceasing in his attempt to subvert the gospel.**

**THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUE GOSPEL:**

**Gal. 1:6-9** *I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a <sup>1</sup>different gospel; <sup>7</sup> which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or <sup>1</sup>an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel <sup>1</sup>contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed*

The Gospel is the CENTRAL theme of the OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

The gospel does not begin with Matt., Mark, etc.

The Gospel begins in the Old Testament.

**Genesis 3:9** ...*Adam, where are you...*

**Genesis 3:15** *And I will put <sup>1</sup>enmity Between you and the woman, Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.*

*Paul tells us that this **Gen. 3:15** is the Gospel:*

**Galatians 3:8** *“the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, **preached the gospel** beforehand to Abraham...”*

**Gal. 3:16** *Now the promises were spoken <sup>1</sup>to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as referring to many, but rather to one, "And to your **Seed**," that is, Christ*

Through out the rest of the Old Testament, God's call to man was through the **Gospel** which continues in the New Testament.

#### **E. The message of the Gospel:**

The message of the gospel:

1. God is Righteous, absolutely and forever Right in Himself and in His actions, totally holy, pure and without any fault whatsoever.

**1 Peter 1:16**...*I am holy*

2. God has created us to be a reflection of His Righteousness

**Gen. 1:26** ...*let Us make man in Our image and after Our likeness*

**1 Peter 1: 16**...*you shall be holy...*

3. We have all sinned:

**Romans 3:9**...*all are under sin...*

4. The penalty of sin is the wrath of God:

**Romans 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness*

5. We are unable and unwilling to rescue ourselves from God's wrath

**Matt. 19:25-26** *When the disciples heard this, they were very astonished and said, "Then who can be saved?" 26 And looking at them Jesus said to them, " With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

6. The death of God's Son has paid the full price for all of our sin.

**1 John 1:7** ...*the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin*

7. God saves us as an act of His grace

**Eph. 2:8**...for by grace you have been saved

8. God offers us His grace as a gift

**Romans 6:23**...the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord

9. We receive God's free gift by faith

**John 1:12**...as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become the children of God, even to those who believe in His Name

10. When we are saved, God gives us the Gift of His Spirit

**Rom. 1:14** for all who are being led by the Spirit of God are the children of God

11. God's purpose is that we be His Righteous people

**Eph. 1:4**...that we would be holy and blameless before Him...

12. God will gather all of us unto Himself before His Throne as the Righteous Bride of Christ

**Rev. 22:1-4** Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,  
2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.  
3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;  
4 they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads

Let's turn to **Romans 3:19-26** to look at what someone has called this passage "*the heart of the Gospel.*"

*What does this passage say about the Gospel?*

1. No one is Righteous by their deeds

19 Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God;

20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.

2. God's Righteousness is made known apart from the Law

21a But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested...

3. God's Righteousness is made known through the Scriptures

21b ... being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

4. God's Righteousness is received by faith

22 even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

5. God's Righteousness shows that all have sinned

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

6. God's Righteousness is offered freely

24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

7. God's Righteousness is purchased through the blood of Christ

25a whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood

8. God's Righteousness is received by faith

25b... through faith.

9. God is shown to be Just and the One Who justifies

25c... *This* was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

26 for the demonstration, *I* say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus

**F. The Gospel reiterated:**

The gospel is the good news of God's grace, of His mercy and love, that comes to us as His gift, free of our ability to earn it, so that we can inherit eternal life through being forgiven and restored to God as His children.

All of this is to PROCLAIM the glory and wisdom of God's grace so that all may know that our God alone is Sovereign, is powerful and is Good.

From *Discipline of Grace* by Jerry Bridges, p. 58

<sup>c</sup> Mark 1:14; Rom 15:16

<sup>c</sup> Matt 13:35; Rom 11:25; 1 Cor 2:1, 7; 4:1; Eph 1:9; 3:3, 9; 6:19; Col 1:26f; 2:2; 4:3; 1 Tim 3:16

<sup>a</sup> Rom 1:2

<sup>lb</sup> 2 Cor 11:4; Gal 1:7, 11; 2:2, 7; 5:14; 1 Tim 1:3

<sup>la</sup> 2 Cor 11:14

<sup>l1</sup> Or *other than, more than*

<sup>la</sup> Rev 12:17