

What Is the Gospel?

Good News

Gospel means, simply, “**good news.**” There are numerous so-called *gospels* in the world proclaiming good news to those who would listen, and these gospels come in any number of forms—from the gospel of wealth and power to the gospel of health and beauty. These gospels, however, do not address the most basic problem that all men and women have—the problem of sin and guilt; that is, spiritual deadness.

Put simply, the Gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ. It is good news because, without it, we stand condemned as sinners before a holy and just God, deserving His wrath. In Isaiah's vision of the throne room of God, seraphim (angelic beings) cry out continually, “**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!**” Isaiah, overwhelmed in the presence of God, cries out in despair: “**Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!**” ([Isaiah 6:3, 5](#))

Yet, in God’s perfect holiness—and this is the good news—God has, in His good pleasure, made a way for sinners to be reconciled to Himself through His Son Jesus Christ. [John 3:16-17](#) says,

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”

Jesus Christ lived a righteous life and then died a terrible death on a Roman cross for His people. “**All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.**” ([Isaiah 53:6](#)). Thus, Jesus Christ satisfied the holy and just requirements of God. God then raised Him from the dead, vindicating Christ's work.

Sinners are called to repent and believe the Gospel and to trust in Christ for salvation. Sinners receive this free gift of salvation from God through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone and are thereby counted righteous before God. [Romans 10:9-13](#) states,

“That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. For the Scripture says, “WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.”

Pastor Leadership Sunday School

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Having been justified, Christians are called to walk as **“living sacrifices”** unto Him through the Holy Spirit because they are not their own, but were **“bought with a price”** ([Romans 12:1](#); [1 Corinthians 6:20](#)).

Just as God raised Jesus Christ, so Christians await a resurrection of their own bodies, Christ being the **“first fruits”** of the new creation ([1 Corinthians 15:20](#)). Ultimately, this is their hope—that God has begun His work of **“making all things new”** in the work of Jesus Christ and in the continued sanctification of His saints ([Revelation 21:5](#)). They await the new heavens and new earth in which there will be no more sin, pain, or sorrow ([Revelation 21:4](#)).