

GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT

“Nailed It to the Cross”

Scripture Reading: COLOSSIANS 2:13-14

-) **SLIDES 1-6.** Bible Jeopardy!
-) **SLIDES 7.** Read today’s Scripture text.
-) **SLIDE 8.** Today we continue in our sermon series “*GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT.*” And I have titled today’s message “*Nailed It to the Cross*” (2:14). Deep theologically today.
-) Let’s get the gospel right. Our eternity depends on it. We have covered four non-negotiable facts about the gospel so far. This is Christianity (salvation) 101.
-) **SLIDE 9.** 1) The gospel always proclaims the sinfulness of mankind. All have sinned and our sin has separated us from the Father and given us a Spiritual death sentence. God doesn’t send us to hell. We send ourselves to hell.
-) **SLIDE 10.** 2) The gospel always proclaims the helplessness of mankind. No amount of works or good deeds can contribute to or completely cure our sin problem.
-) **SLIDE 11.** 3) The gospel always proclaims that Jesus of Nazareth is God incarnate (in the flesh). Jesus is God. Jesus is the second Person of the Trinity. He and the Father are one. And we need to have the right Jesus.
-) **SLIDE 12.** 4) The gospel always proclaims that Jesus of Nazareth is the only way unto salvation. He is not one of many ways. He is the only way. Oprah Winfrey school of theology.
-) **SLIDE 13.** A person’s eternity depends on getting the gospel right. If you doubt or disbelieve any of these gospel truths, you are entering the wide gate that leads to destruction. Let’s not forget that the path to eternal life is **NARROW.**

-) The gospel is about who Jesus is, what Jesus said, and what Jesus accomplished. We have covered who Jesus is (JOHN 1:14) and what Jesus said (JOHN 14:6, 8:24).
-) Today we will cover what Jesus accomplished by His death on the cross—another gospel fact that we must know, believe, and receive by faith because it is necessary for salvation.
-) It may be easy for us to jump to the simple conclusion that the death of Jesus on the cross was for the forgiveness of our sins. And that would be a correct statement. But there is so much more to that simple truth. Let's look at what the death of Jesus Christ on the cross accomplished.
-) **SLIDE 14.** We have all broken the laws of God (ROM 3:23). To make ourselves right with God, we must atone for these transgressions. What does it mean to atone?
-) So, how can I atone (make reparations for my offense (sin)), when I have already been taught that there is nothing I can do on my own to contribute to or cure my death sentence?
-) Since God is the one offended, God will set the atonement requirement. What is that requirement?
-) **SLIDE 15.** God's requirement for the atonement of our transgressions and the forgiveness it provides is a perfect **SACRIFICE.** That is God's one and only requirement.
-) **SLIDE 16.** HEBREWS 9:22. In the OT according to the Law, an unblemished lamb was sacrificed, and by faith in that sacrifice, that person would be forgiven of their sins. This practice was repeated every year at the time of Passover.
-) In the NT, Jesus is that perfect sacrifice. He shed His blood on the cross as the atonement required by God for the forgiveness of our sins. Jesus made the atonement (the reparation for an offense) that we could not make for ourselves. And this sacrifice would only be made once. And by our faith in this sacrifice, the believer receives forgiveness of their sins.

-) Jesus provides the atonement. We receive the forgiveness.
-) **SLIDE 17.** The death of Jesus Christ on the cross provided the atonement necessary for the **FORGIVENESS** of sins for all who believe.
-) Not everyone believes in Jesus or in the cross. Do you? The believer accepts this atonement, this sacrifice by faith. We are saved by grace through what? Faith.
-) **SLIDE 18.** Jesus atoned (made reparations) for our sins. He did for us what we could not do for ourselves. And the result of that atonement is the forgiveness of our sins. That is a gospel fact in its simplistic terms. We could stop right here and knowing this would be satisfactory. But let's go a little deeper.
-) Have you ever been angry? Have you ever been so angry that you just want to knock the living snot out of someone? I have and I'm sure you have been too. Can we and how do we get past that kind of anger?
-) **SLIDE 19.** God can also be angry. And God is angry. Let's not forget that God is also a God of wrath. ROM 1:18-19. When we suppress the truth in unrighteousness, we sin. And sin makes a perfectly holy God angry. And that sin must be judged. And that sin must be punished.
-) **SLIDE 20.** How can this wrath of God, how can His anger over our sin, be satisfied? Our second word. Propitiation. Webster.
-) God's anger and wrath must be appeased. God's wrath for my crime has to be satisfied. Something or someone must direct God's wrath away from me, a sinner. There must be propitiation. If there isn't, then I will suffer the consequences of my crime (my sin) which carries a death sentence (which isn't good) at the hands of a wrathful God (who is just in doing so).
-) **SLIDE 21.** There's good news. There is propitiation for my sins. 1 JOHN 4:10. Jesus is that propitiation. Jesus appeased the anger that God would have otherwise had towards me.

-) **SLIDE 22.** The death of Christ on the cross satisfied the **ANGER** that God has towards the sinner.
-) **SLIDE 23.** So now we know that Jesus' death on the cross paid the debt (atoned) for my sins and His death also satisfied God's anger towards my sins. Propitiation. What else did the death of Jesus accomplish? One more.
-) **SLIDE 24.** MATTHEW 5:48. Wait a second. I can't be perfect. It's already been determined that ALL have sinned. So much for perfection.
-) **SLIDE 25.** So, how can a sinner like me be perfect? It's a goal I can never achieve. Our next word. Imputation. Webster.
-) We know this. Every person is a sinner and Jesus is perfectly righteous. Let's see how imputation works.
-) **SLIDE 26.** ROMANS 3:21-22. The righteousness of Jesus Christ is imputed to the believer. When God looks at us, He see the righteousness of His own Son. Incredible, isn't it?
-) **SLIDE 27.** 2 COR 5:21. The sins of every believer have been imputed to Jesus Christ. When God looked at Jesus on the cross, He saw our sin. Not that Jesus was a sinner. May it never be. Jesus bore our sins on that cross.
-) **SLIDE 28.** 1 PETER 2:21-24. Three important truths found in these verses. 1) Jesus never sinned. He was perfect. 2) He took on our sins on the cross. We were the guilty ones but He paid the price. And 3) our death sentence has been removed. We have been healed from the wages of our sins.
-) **SLIDE 29.** Jesus bore the **SINS** of every believer on the cross. And in return, the believer received the **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of Jesus Christ. This is imputation.

-) **SLIDE 30.** Jesus' death on the cross provided 1) atonement: Jesus paid the debt I could never repay; 2) propitiation: God's anger towards my sins has been satisfied; 3). imputation: the believer is now clothed with the righteousness of Jesus Christ.
-) I am convinced that there are many people who do not understand the seriousness of their sin situation. The gospel grasps the importance of understanding that God is perfect and holy and hates sin so much that it must be punished. The gospel never denies the justified anger and wrath of God.
-) The gospel makes it perfectly clear that you and I have a sin problem. The gospel also makes it perfectly clear that you and I owe a debt we cannot pay. The gospel makes it perfectly clear that this debt could only be paid with a perfect sacrifice.
-) **SLIDE 31.** COLOSSIANS 2:13-14. 1) We were dead in our transgressions and could do nothing about that. 2) We have been forgiven of all our transgressions. 3) We no longer owe a debt for our sins. It's been paid. 4) All this has been done because all of our sins have been nailed to the cross.
-) The gospel is always God-centered. It is about who Jesus is, what Jesus said, and what Jesus accomplished. Next week we will cover one more act that Jesus accomplished that is critical to the gospel.
-) The gospel. The power unto salvation to all who believe. Let's get the gospel right.

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