

# WHEN THE GOSPEL WAS MADE KNOWN

## SEEING GOSPEL REVELATIONS IN THE BIBLE

*"For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.*

~ 1 Corinthians 9:17

### 1. What is the Gospel

- An old question we reignite by claiming, "the gospel revealed first to Paul"
- An expected objection: "The gospel is Jesus!" "the gospel preached before Paul!"
- Gospel is not "whole Bible", just in the NT, 4 Gospels (Matt-John), or 2 gospels.
- Gospel ~*def.* Good news (tidings ~info not known before); a message about salvation
- There are gospels from Gen-Rev, but not every message is the same. *Which gospel?*
- It was purposed before the world (2 Tim 1:9), but when was it first known/revealed?
- A gospel must be believed. If left unrevealed, how can we believe? Rom 10:14-15

### 2. The Everlasting Gospel

- The whole Bible is a message from God, but we must discern when new things happen.
- Rev 14:6 contains an "everlasting gospel" preached by an angel (woops, Gal 1:8)
- Rom 1:20-21, 3:18 – from creation men did not fear or glorify God
- What happened: God made the world. Man sinned. (Rev: when God remakes the world)
- Message: Fear God, give glory to him. (Job and Solomon knew it – Job 1:1, Ecc 12:13)

### 3. Gospel of Promise

- Some good news is spoken afore, while others kept secret, hid in God, mystery.
- The gospel preached unto Abraham received by faith - Gal 3:8 (1<sup>st</sup> mention of believed)
- What happened: The *promise* given of a future seed, nation, blessing – a future gospel.
- Message: Believe God, and He will do it as he promised. Faith! (But faith in what?)
- Gospel to circumcision about peace in their city - Isa 52:1,7,61:1, Lk 4:18-19, Rom 15:8

### 4. Gospel of the Kingdom

- The gospel from Moses of a promised land/kingdom rest – Heb 4:1-2, 8-9
- A kingdom had been prophesied for years but it was not time til John - Luke 16:16
- What happened: The time is fulfilled. Birth of a king. Kingdom is coming to earth.
- Message: The kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Repent, be baptized, prepare the way.)
- Matt 3:1-6 - Preached by John the Baptist, Jesus, and Peter – Luke 9:1-6, Heb 2:1-8
- Matt 4:23 - This good news accompanied by kingdom signs - Acts 1:3-7, 2:14, 22, 38

### 5. Gospel of Christ

- Mark 1:1 – "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"
- The good news of Christ prophesied since the world began - Gen 3:15, Psa 23, Isa 12, but his name (who he would be) was unknown til Mt 1:21-23.
- What happened: God became man, the Word made flesh, God sent His Son.
- Message: Jesus is Christ, the Son of the Living God - Matt 16:13-16, John 6:69, 20:31
- Salvation in the name of Jesus - John 3:16-21, Acts 2:21, 3:6, 12-18, 4:7, 10-12
- Every gospel reveals more information, but not all. Salvation still a mystery until...

## 6. Gospel of the Cross

- a. In the Bible there is Christ foretold, and Christ untold (according to the mystery)
- b. The cross was foretold (Isa 53), but the cross as good news was kept secret til Gal 6:14
- c. What happened: Christ returned to make known salvation to a sinner – 1 Tim 1:11, 16
  - i. Paul's salvation by God's grace was out of due time - 1Cor 15:1-8
  - ii. And now salvation is revealed and has appeared to all - 2 Tim 1:9-10, Titus 2:11
  - iii. God promised before the world, but in due times manifested it - Titus 1:2-4
- d. Message: Preaching Christ crucified, the cross as God's glory, wisdom, grace, power.
  - i. The preaching of the cross for salvation now - 1 Cor 1:17-18, 23-24, 2:2, 7-8
  - ii. Christ died for sins, rose from the dead, to reconcile all things to himself.
- e. Paul: "a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me" - 1Cor 9:17
- f. He called it the "mystery of the gospel" - Eph 6:19 (good news not known before)
- g. The "gospel of your salvation" explained in the mystery of Christ - Eph 1:9, 13, 3:1-5, 9
- h. It was given to Paul to make known this gospel of salvation in Romans... see 16:24-27
- i. It is not always this vs. that gospel, but whether you know the gospel that saves today.
- j. Without this revelation, the gospel would still be mystery ... and still is for many.