

Bible Study Guide: The Gospel of Jesus Christ

Jesus (God in the flesh who is both Lord and Christ) Died for Our Sins, was Buried, then was Raised from the Dead

G O D , S G R A C E & K I N D N E S S	Components of this Good News (Gospel) Message of First Importance:					
	Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that: Christ⁽¹⁾ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,⁽²⁾ and that He was buried,⁽³⁾ and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,⁽⁴⁾ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep... 1 Corinthians 15:1-6.					
	Timeline in Scripture					
	<-- Before Jesus' Resurrection			After Jesus' Resurrection -->		
	Examples of it being Foretold by Angels and Prophets	Examples of it being Foretold or Mentioned by Jesus	Then it Happens	The First Gospel Sermon on Day of Pentecost	Examples where scriptures remind us after it happened	
	By it you are being saved	Matthew 1:20-23	John 3:16-21	See Peter preaching gospel in Acts 2	See Peter preaching gospel in Acts 2	1 Corinthians 15:1-2, Romans 1:16-17
	The urgency that this message be preached	Isaiah 52:7	Luke 4:43, Matthew 24:14			Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16
	1. Jesus is:					
	- A man attested to the world by God with miracles and wonders and signs	Isaiah 7:14	Luke 7:22	See New Testament	Acts 2:22	Hebrews 2:1-4
	- The Head of the Kingdom, His Church (and the Lord is the One who adds the saved to His church)	Isaiah 9:6-7, John 1:49	John 18:36	Planned from the beginning	Acts 2:40-47	Ephesians 1:22, Colossians 1:18
- The Messiah, or the Christ	Isaiah 53:5	Mark 14:60-62	Acts 2:36		Acts 17:2-3	
- Lord	Isaiah 9:6-7	Matthew 7:21-23	Acts 2:36		Philippians 2:5-10	
2. Jesus Died for our sins according to the scriptures	Acts 2:29-35 (foretold by David), Acts 3:17-24	Luke 9:21, Mark 8:31-33, 9:30-32, 10:32-34	Matthew 27:31-50	Acts 2:23	1 Peter 2:24, Acts 3:13-26, Luke 24:18-27	
3. Jesus was Buried (but not abandoned to Hades)	Acts 2:29-35 (foretold by David), Acts 3:17-24	Matthew 12:40, Luke 9:21	Matthew 27:57-60	Acts 2:27-32	Luke 24:18-27	
4. Jesus was Raised from the dead	Acts 2:29-35 (foretold by David), Acts 3:17-24	Luke 9:21	Matthew 28:1-10	Acts 2:32	Acts 17:2-3, Acts 3:13-26, Luke 24:18-27	

Note: Even though certain elements of the gospel of Jesus Christ were taught prior to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus (e.g. the good news that the kingdom was coming or at hand), the full message was "a secret and hidden wisdom of God"; "wisdom that none of the rulers of that age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (see 1 Corinthians 2:1-8). See also John 16:12-13, Romans 16:25-27, Ephesians 1:9, and Ephesians 3:1-9. Even the angels longed to look on these things (1 Peter 1:10-12). Following the death of Jesus, the new covenant was put in place for Jews and non-Jews (see Hebrews 8:1-13, 9:11-16).



How should we respond to the gospel message?





After we hear the gospel, what choices are available (according to the New Testament) for those of us who are living after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus?

Choice 1 - What Do I Do?

- Believe that Jesus is who He says He is,	John 8:24; John 8:27-30, John 8:57-58, John 14:8-11, John 3:16, Matthew 16:13-17, John 1:1-5, John 1:14-18
- Believe in the gospel,	Mark 1:15, Romans 1:16
- Repent (decide to turn away) from my sins,	Luke 13:3-5, Acts 2:36-41, Acts 3:19, Acts 17:30-31
- Confess that Jesus is Lord,	Matthew 10:32-33, Romans 10:9
- and , I am immersed in water*, having faith in God's promises (e.g. the obedience of faith...see Romans 1:5, Romans 16:26)	Titus 3:5, Colossians 2:8-14; 1 Peter 3:21-22, Acts 2:36-41, Acts 8:26-39, Romans 6:1-4, Romans 6:17-18

* also called "baptism" (see Acts 22:16), being "born again" (see 1 Peter 1:23, 1 Peter 3:21, John 3:3-5), the "washing of regeneration" (Titus 3:5), "obeying the Gospel, or heeding the good news" (see Romans 6:1-18, Romans 10:16). The word baptism is from the Greek word *baptizo*, which means to **immerse or dip**. When we are baptized, having faith in God's promises, we are doing something that takes the spiritual form of the gospel doctrine in that we are choosing to **Die** to sin (repentance), to be **Buried** with Christ and into His death, and then **Raised** to walk in newness of life (Romans 6).

Choice 1 - What Does God Promise If I Do This?

- I am saved from my sins when baptized into Jesus Christ having faith in God's work (Colossians 2:12)	Colossian 2:8-14, Acts 2:38-41, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Titus 3:5. Romans 6:3-4 says we are baptized into Christ Jesus and into His death. When I am " in Christ Jesus " there is no condemnation (Romans 8:1).
- I am clothed with Christ when I'm baptized.	Galatians 3:26-27.
- God gives me the gift of the Holy Spirit when I'm baptized into Jesus Christ	Acts 2:36-41, Acts 5:32, Acts 19:1-5
- The Lord adds me to His church (His kingdom)	Acts 2:47, Colossians 1:13-14
- He will be with me always and will not forsake me	Matthew 28:18-20, Hebrews 13:5-6
- If I continue to do the following until death, God promises that I will go to live with Jesus and God for an eternity:	
- Grow closer to the image of Jesus	Romans 8:29, 2 Corinthians 3:18
- Go, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all the things that Jesus commanded.	Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 10:14-17 (see some examples in Acts 2:14-47, Acts 8:12-13, Acts 8:35-39, Acts 9:10-19, Acts 10:34-48, Acts 16:13-15, Acts 16:30-33, Acts 18:7-8, Acts 18:24-26, Acts 19:1-5, Acts 22:10-16, Romans 6:1-6, Romans 6:17-18, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Corinthians 12:13)
- Walk in the light as He is in the light	1 John 1:5-10, John 3:16-21
- Be faithful unto death	Revelation 2:10, 1 Corinthians 15:1-2, Matt. 24:13-14, Hebrews 11:6
- Continue to confess Jesus as Lord	Matthew 10:32-33, Romans 10:9
- Continue to confess your sins and turn from sin	James 5:16, Revelation 2:16, Acts 17:30-31
- Abide in His word and abide in Him	John 8:31-32, Galatians 1:6-9, Romans 8:1, John 15:1-11
- Love God and all others	Mark 12:28-30, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Matthew 5:43-47
- Don't judge or condemn others	Luke 6:37, Matthew 7:1-5, Jude 20-23, Galatians 6:1-4
- Forgive those who sin against me	Matthew 6:14-15, Ephesians 4:32
- See the New Testament for other examples	

Choice 2 - Any Path Other Than Choice 1

Read the entire New Testament for the risks and warnings about choosing this path. Here are some examples: Luke 6:46-49, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9, John 12:48, John 8:21-24, and John 14:6.

NOTE: The word "gospel" is from the Greek word εὐαγγέλιον which means "good news." What type of good news is defined by the context in the scripture verse. For example the good news of the kingdom (Matthew 4:23), the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1), the good news of the grace of God (Acts 20:24), the good news of God (Romans 1:1), the good news of your faith and love (1 Thessalonians 3:6), the glad tidings (Romans 10:16), and the gospel of our Lord Jesus (2 Thessalonians 1:8). There is only one gospel of Jesus Christ, however many throughout the ages have tried come up with different false gospels or tried to distort the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Galatians 1:6-9).