

The Gospel

- I. Good news!
 - A. God offers eternal life in heaven as a free gift.
 - 1. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23
 - 2. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9
- II. Bad news 😞
 - A. People are sinners.
 - 1. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
 - 2."None is righteous, no, not one...." Romans 3:10
 - B. Why is this a problem?
 - 1. God is holy (set apart) and requires holiness from those in his presence.
 - 2. You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matthew 5:48
 - 3. God is just and must punish sin.
 - 4. ...but (He) will by no means clear the guilty... Exodus 34:7b.
- III. More good news 😊
 - A. Our holy, perfect God is also loving and merciful.
 - 1. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy. Titus 3:4
 - B. How did God who is perfectly just and perfectly loving and merciful satisfy his justice? He sent his perfect son Jesus Christ to pay the penalty for our sin.
 - 1. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17.
 - 2. But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
- IV. This free gift is received by faith.
 - A. Only in Jesus Christ and what he did on the cross for us.
 - 1. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
 - 2. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12
 - 3. It requires us to stop trusting in our own good works, our heritage, the church we attend or the country we live in and put our trust in Christ alone.
 - B. A changed life is the evidence of the faith given to us by the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-2

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Questions for Discussion

What are you trusting in for your life and for what happens after you die?

Do you see evidence of a changed life? None of us is perfect but we should see the work of the Holy Spirit in our life.