



## Does Christianity Preach the Gospel?

**Romans 10:15: (NASB) *How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!***



Every Christian group proclaims what they believe to be the gospel of Jesus Christ, as we all claim to follow his leading and his life. The problem arises when we compare our doctrine, principles and life objectives with one another. Simply stated, it all just does not line up. There are SO many variations of Christianity; it is safe to say that we can find disagreement on just about any aspect of what Christianity is. The age-old question is, who is right? How do I know that the view of Christianity I adhere to is sound? How do I know that what I stand for is truly a God-honoring belief system? The only way we can think to answer these questions is to look at Christianity solely based on Scripture. Let's put aside tradition and try to eliminate our bias and see how God's word describes the gospel of Jesus.

Many Christians say, "I was raised in this church, my parents and grandparents were raised in this church, and I will die in this church." How do we respond to that?

This can be interpreted as: "I am not willing to listen to anything outside of the tradition I have been taught." What if the tradition is not scripturally sound? There are many variations of Christianity, and factually we know much of it is tradition. From our studies and what we have been taught, we will take a look at what we believe is the true meaning of the gospel.



When I was a teenager, my Uncle Tony spent a lot of time with my brother and me teaching us about discipline, sportsmanship and exercise. He was not a Christian, and I was a budding, zealous young Christian. My uncle would argue with me, and I could not stand up to him because he was a lot older and smarter. He would always say to me, "Rick, always make sure you prove for yourself the things you argue for." I never forgot that.

To assist in teaching your children on how to study the Bible, check out our CQ Kids video: [What's the Best Way to Study the Bible? ChristianQuestions.com/youtube](https://www.ChristianQuestions.com/youtube)



What is the gospel - the good news? Here is what we believe the Bible says:

**The gospel message began to be revealed as soon as sin entered:**

**Genesis 3:15: (NASB) *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.***

God is telling Satan *the seed of the woman* is going to put an end to him. The bruise to the head of a serpent causes death.





## Jesus would come to destroy the usurper, Satan, rescuing the world:

Hebrews 2:14: (NASB) *Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death he might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.*

It is a fact that Satan will be destroyed as confirmed in Revelation 20. Knowing this *one fact* - Satan will be destroyed - can reveal false doctrines in several Christian groups. That begs the question: Who will run “hell” if it is a place of torment when Satan is destroyed? The fact that Satan will be destroyed proves there is no place of torment. We ask again, “Does Christianity preach the gospel?”

So, the gospel began when sin began to be spoken of by the prophecy of Satan coming to an end. Moving further, the CORE promise of the Old Testament provided the foundation for the gospel message.

## God’s promise after Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac:

Genesis 22:17-18: (NASB) *<sup>17</sup>indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. <sup>18</sup>In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.*

Abraham being willing to offer his son Isaac has a wonderful parallel to God sacrificing His son for the human race.



This promise was repeated to Isaac and Jacob and is referenced throughout the Old and New Testaments. This promise is a linchpin of the truth of Scripture regarding the scope of the gospel - *In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed*. We will develop this thought further in the next segments.

## The gospel is great news for ALL, and the birth of Jesus introduced this with a broad proclamation:

Luke 2:10-11: (NASB) *<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; <sup>11</sup>for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

## God loves and provides for ALL:

2 Peter 3:9: (NASB) *The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing (the word wishing is properly translated as “not willing”) for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

It is God’s intention (not a wish) to not want *any to perish but for all to come to repentance*.

## Jesus’ sacrifice satisfies ALL sins:

1 John 2:2: (NASB) *and he himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.*

*Propitiation* means to atone or expiate. Jesus atoned the sins - not just for us, the Christian believers, but also for non-Christians - *for those of the whole world*.



Hebrews 2:9: (NASB) *But we do see him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.*



Today we will lay out a lot of information but cannot give all of the background and evidence in this podcast due to the number of details. We will provide the resources for you to examine as homework.

**The earth is a big part of the good news of the gospel:**

Habakkuk 2:14: (NASB) *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

Habakkuk 2:14: (NASB)



*For the earth will be filled  
with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD...*



**Gospel Goodness**

*Good News*

Even with just a quick glance, the true gospel of Jesus shows itself to be broader and more comprehensive than most of us have been taught. Even the earth is part of the good news!

Are churches preaching this gospel?

It is always comforting to see good news be just that - good news for everyone that is simple to understand!

**What are the important specifics of the gospel?  
What does it include, and what does it exclude?**

It is easy to say how comprehensive we think the gospel is. It is much more difficult to look critically at the several aspects of doctrinal teaching we believe should *not* be there. Why would we examine this? We believe the Bible is specific about the gospel, and therefore we all should be as well.

In this segment, we will take a look at problems with the gospel as preached today.



## Here is a prophetic gospel problem:

2 Timothy 4:3-4: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

They will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths and they will make it look like the gospel.

**The gospel is NOT: An invitation to health, wealth and ease.**

Another point about having *ears tickled* and teachers that use human emotion to distract from the true gospel is the entertainment factor: candles, incense, an overabundance of musical instruments, jokes, stories, light shows, stained glass windows and statues. These are not preaching the gospel.

**The Old Testament was about physically-based rewards for obeying God's commands:**

Deuteronomy 28:3-6: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. <sup>4</sup>Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. <sup>5</sup>Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. <sup>6</sup>Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

People in the Old Testament were given land to work. There was conditional obedience - they were blessed IF they followed God's commands. We do not see this in the New Testament.



Please search our archives for  
CQ Episode 960: Is Christianity a Greedy Religion?



**The gospel IS: A calling to live in accordance with the life of Jesus, that we may be inheritors with him of that promise to Abraham.**

1 Peter 4:12-13: (NASB) <sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; <sup>13</sup>but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of his glory you may rejoice with exultation.

In the early church, the gospel was about the word of God, the life and resurrection of Jesus and how to follow in his footsteps. Life is to be spiritually-based, not earthly-based.

**Another prophetic gospel problem:**

2 Timothy 3:1-2: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. <sup>2</sup>For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy.

**The gospel is NOT: A money-driven tithing machine that is focused on church buildings, lavish lifestyles for pastors and creating a financially-sound footprint to show God's favor.**



In the Old Testament, the people were blessed with land for obeying God's commands.





## Many Christians quote this Old Testament verse to justify taking Old Testament thinking and dropping it into the New Testament:

**Malachi 3:10:** (NASB) *Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.*

Before this verse, God was scolding the priesthood for not offering Him the best of what they had.



- The true tithing template is NOT based on money, but the bounty of the land and cattle.
- It was given to the priests who had no earthly inheritance.
- Other tithes were for others in need.
- None of this translates to current Christian tithing practices!



For several “Tithing Takeaways” please listen to CQ Episode 1040: Do Tithes and Offerings Belong in Christianity?



The gospel IS: A simple, congregation-driven setup that thrives on fellowship, co-laboring and giving as much as we individually deem appropriate, when we can and in a manner we choose.

**Galatians 6:2-3:** (NASB) <sup>2</sup>*Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.* <sup>3</sup>*For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.*

Those in the Old Testament were called to an earthly kingdom. They did receive have a call to heaven. We are to spiritually *bear one another's burdens*, encouraging and lifting up each other.

### Here is another prophetic gospel problem:

**1 John 4:1:** (NASB) *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

We are to test the influences and powers to see if they come from God *because many false prophets have gone out into the world* and can LOOK godly but are not godly.



The gospel is NOT: A speaking in tongues, healing-driven display of power. The speaking in tongues and healing of our present day are not in accord with their New Testament applications.

The way healing and speaking in tongues is being done now is not the way it was done in the early church.



For facts on faith healing, see Episode 1037: Is Christianity a Healing Religion?





## Let's look at the gift of tongues at Pentecost:

**Acts 2:7-8:** (NASB) <sup>7</sup>They were amazed and astonished, saying, Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?

The original gift of speaking in tongues was for the purpose of communicating the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who spoke a different language.



For more on the gift of speaking in tongues, please see Episode 1047: Why Did the Tongues of Fire Touch the Apostles?



**Acts 5:14-16:** (NASB) <sup>14</sup>And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to their number, <sup>15</sup>to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them. <sup>16</sup>Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.

...and they were ALL being healed. There was no partiality or weighing to see if someone's faith was good enough. Only unbelievers were being healed. The healing was generous, widespread and very public. Healing in the New Testament was done spontaneously, unlike it is supposedly done today.



The gospel IS: A message of future healing and understanding destined for the world according to multiple prophecies.

## This prophecy takes place after the Time of Trouble:

**Zephaniah 3:9:** (NASB) For then I will give to the peoples (everyone) purified lips (purified language), that all of them may call on the name of the LORD, to serve Him shoulder to shoulder.

**Isaiah 35:5-6:** (NASB) <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. <sup>6</sup>Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness and streams in the Arabah.

This will be a time when people and the earth will both heal.

We again encourage everyone to do the homework and study these statements and Scriptures. Find the proof.

## Our last prophetic gospel problem:

**1 Timothy 4:1-2:** (NASB) <sup>1</sup>But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, <sup>2</sup>by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron.

The gospel is NOT: A call to an exclusive heaven-bound group who are saved from the eternal fires of hell, where the countless billions of unbelievers are said to go.





To understand the truth about hell, please see Episodes 1021, 1024 and 1027: Is the Hell of Christian Tradition Taught in the Bible? (Parts I, II and III).

Luke 16:23-24: (KJV) <sup>23</sup>And in hell (*hades*) he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. <sup>24</sup>And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

This is definitely symbolic language. If this were not symbolic it would mean the people who were “in hell” could SEE the people in heaven. We know Abraham could not have been in heaven at that point. There are many clues within the story to know for sure it is not to be taken literally. IT IS A SYMBOLIC PICTURE OF ISRAEL’S LOSS OF FAVOR.



The gospel IS: A call to walk in Jesus’ footsteps for the purpose of being reconcilers with him in the Day of Resurrection and Judgment. The gospel is INCLUSIVE to the countless billions of unbelieving humanity but NOT without accountability.

John 5:28-29: (NASB) <sup>28</sup>Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice, <sup>29</sup>and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

### The Day of Judgment - how long is a day to God?

2 Peter 3:8: (KJV) ...one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. (It is not a 24-hour period.)

Romans 5:18: (NASB) So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

If we are dying in Adam, we are given the opportunity for life in Christ!

There is no doubt that Jesus’ sacrifice bought the entire world.



Jesus left his spiritual nature in the heavens to become a man, live perfectly and earned the right to live forever. Then he gave that human life up to buy back Adam and give life to all men.

This is a lot to comprehend. Never overlook the need to personally prove everything according to Scripture!



### Let's make this personal.

#### How does this gospel affect us as Christians? What are we dedicated to?

Let's get practical. We have talked about living a sacrificial life, but how are we supposed to do that? Is it just for our personal reward in heaven? The great news about OUR part in the good news is that WE get to play a significant role in how the gospel message unfolds!

Most of us miss that part. This is such an enormous part of our walk! If we are following in Jesus' footsteps because we believe we are called to a life of sacrifice, what are WE supposed to do with this gospel?

**Matthew 5:13-16:** (NASB) <sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again... <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; <sup>15</sup>nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup>Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

The following excerpt from a poem by Edgar Guest says it well:



#### Edgar A. Guest, I'd Rather See a Sermon

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;  
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.  
The eye is a better pupil, more willing than the ear;  
Fine counsel is confusing, but example is always clear...

Rick's Uncle Steve used to say, "Preach the gospel - use words if necessary," which contains the same thought. We need to be living proof of *light* and *salt*. Salt is used as a preservative as well as a seasoning. Does that describe our lives? We have to develop the character necessary to be the light of the world, right now!

#### What do we become by being "salty" and shining our lights?

**1 Peter 2:9,12:** (NASB) <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>12</sup>Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

As they observe them - who is going to observe those with excellent behavior? Those who do not have a relationship with God; the *Gentiles* in the verse. This is a simple and obvious conclusion that is often overlooked.

When is this? *In the day of visitation*, later, in the *day of judgment*. Notice, there is no burning going on here. Judgment and life-changing experiences are going on. The Gentiles will glorify God in the *day of judgment* when they remember our (the followers of Jesus) examples!







What this is telling us, between what Jesus said in Matthew 5 above, and here in 1 Peter 2, is to *stand for the gospel* - it will be remembered. Sometimes our behavior will serve as an example now, but for sure it will be remembered later! That is the important thing. **BE THE LIGHT** that we are supposed to be. If we are followers of Christ, we are to BE a shining example to others.

The following Scripture will develop a theme for the rest of this segment. We will look at **OUR ROLE** as Christians and then look at **THE BENEFIT FOR THE WORLD** that happens as a result of our role.

**This is the good news of the gospel - our role is substantial!**

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: (NASB) <sup>18</sup>*Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,*

**Our role is the ministry of reconciliation.**

**Why? What is the benefit for the world?**

<sup>19</sup>*namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and,*



How can that be? Does the world get a free ride? What God is saying here about *not counting their trespasses against them* is, “I am looking at them through the sacrifice of Jesus.” That is where their opportunity for life comes from.

**Our role again:**

*...He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

Our role is to bring *the good tidings of great joy* to all who will hear and that is just the starting point - there is so much more to reconciling. This is not just talking to someone about the gospel, though that should be something we do regularly. It is so much bigger than this! It is a *ministry of reconciliation* - bringing things that are out of balance back into balance.

Let's go further in what we are supposed to be doing with the gospel. Remember our question: “Does Christianity Preach the Gospel?” Our role is presenting the clarity of the gospel and its application to every human life. The next set of Scriptures is a logical, clear explanation of God's plan.



**It starts with the benefit for the world: Jesus' sacrifice touched ALL who were touched by Adam's sin:**

Romans 5:15,17-18: (NASB) <sup>15</sup>*But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.*

*The many* are benefitted just like *the many* died in Adam. This means all of mankind. Everyone (“the mass of mankind” in the Weymouth translation) dies in Adam. This shows the *reconciliation* of what Jesus did to cancel out Adam's sin. That is the benefit to the world.



### What is **our role** in this? Here is a limited promise to the **called-out ones**:

<sup>17</sup>For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ. (This is not applying to the world, but to those who will reign.)

Here he talks about *reigning in life through the one*. That is different than the way the world is described. Let us go back to 1 Peter 2:9. The “called-out” ones are called *a royal priesthood*. When someone is royal, they are a part of the family that reigns. This is what is being discussed; it talks about those called-out ones who will have that privilege and opportunity to be the reconcilers with Jesus.

### What is the **benefit to the world**? Here is the **universal application to ALL the human race**:

<sup>18</sup>So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.



This reminds us of the promise to Abraham, *in thee and thy seed will all the families of the earth be blessed*. This connects God’s entire thread of promise. This is exactly what the promise to Abraham was about. Paul emphatically tells us in Galatians 3:16 that this seed is Christ. Galatians 3:29: (KJV) *And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.* **WE INHERIT THE ABILITY TO RECONCILE AND BLESS.** Paul is showing us the magnitude of the role we have to play in the plan of God. Practically speaking for a Christian, these are the things we have to be focusing on in our minds.

### Here is our role:

Romans 8:18-19, 21-22: (NASB) <sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.



### Observations:

1. Our present trials cannot be compared to the glory of our lives later. It does not say we will not have to worry because we will be rich now. Our riches are in heaven, not here on earth.
2. *The longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God* - who are the sons of God? The followers of Christ, the called-out ones. The world is waiting for them, though they do not know what they are waiting for. They are hurting through injustice, poverty, greed and abuse, so they look for something better. They want something to hold onto, but they do not know what it is.

### Here is their benefit:

<sup>21</sup>that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.



This verse talks about the world (unbelievers), *the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.* How is this possible if the gospel is limited to a certain few? That is not what the gospel is saying. Jesus' sacrifice was bigger than that. It gives all men the OPPORTUNITY (not the guarantee) of eternal life. But they must do the work of correcting their past mistakes by coming to God. They will be accountable for whatever sins are committed in this world. The Bible is clear - the gospel works for us *and* it works for them.

## Gospel Goodness

*Good News*

The gospel clearly reveals that a major role of those called to heaven is to be faithful for the purpose of bringing the rest of the world fully to Christ after their resurrection.



It is important to realize there is a bigger role other than just going to heaven! Jesus gave his life for the world because he loved the world. We love Jesus and we are supposed to love the world as he did. We cannot give our lives to the world, but we can give our lives to Christ so that we can help with the ministry of reconciliation.

Think about the incredible privilege that being called to Christ carries. We will help establish the world's future.

**In Old Testament prophecy, God has painted a glorious picture of the gospel. What does it look like?**

The Old Testament overflows with prophecies concerning the future opportunities for those who die in their sins. What we do know is that if we are willing to consider these words of God concerning the future in the Old Testament prophecies, we will see the gospel as truly *good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people* - Luke 2:10 (KJV).

What are the results of the good news of the gospel? We could talk for weeks about these beautiful prophecies! We will only quote a few to begin painting the gospel picture as spoken of in the Old Testament.



Please check out our CQ Kids video: [What Will God's Kingdom Be Like?](https://www.ChristianQuestions.com/youtube)  
[ChristianQuestions.com/youtube](https://www.ChristianQuestions.com/youtube)

### First:

Daniel 2:44: (NASB) *In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.*

More good news - Satan's kingdom (this present evil world) will cease! Let's look at the language in this prophecy. God's kingdom *will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms*. This reminds us of the prophecy from the Garden of Eden - the bruising of the serpent's head. Daniel's prophecy says that Christ's



kingdom puts a forceful end to these things because the world is now in God's hands. This is very straightforward language that describes an earthly outcome.

**According to the Scriptures, this kingdom of God unmistakably takes place on earth:**

Habakkuk 2:14: (NASB) *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

The called-out ones go to heaven, which we have shown in these discussions. Here we see there is an EARTHLY PHASE to God's kingdom. Could this verse apply to the present day? No.

Psalms 22:27-28: (NASB) *<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will worship before You. <sup>28</sup>For the kingdom is the LORD'S and He rules over the nations.*

Have we seen this come to pass? Absolutely not! This talks about the ends (all the edges) of the earth, and that all nations will worship before God. This is happening on earth in the future kingdom of God, certainly not now.

Psalms 86:9: (NASB) *All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name.*

Not only will ALL NATIONS worship God as in the Psalms 22 verses above, but then ALL NATIONS will worship *and* glorify His name. Glorifying God means their hearts and heads are in the right place, and they are literally bringing glory to God. How do they get there? It is not without accountability. We should not forget that detail. We are all accountable for our sins and for our words. The world will have to change their characters to be in accordance with godliness. No one will get away with anything because God knows the heart.



**Here is another Scripture about the earth:**

Isaiah 11:9: (NASB) *They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*

We were talking about *worshipping* God and *bringing glory* to God. Now, this Scripture is saying the earth is full of the *knowledge* of the Lord. We get the sense that it is covering all the bases. We are not taking one little verse and trying to build a doctrine out of it. We are taking this vast collection of verses and saying to look at the different aspects of the description of God's kingdom! They are profound in their explanations.

Zechariah 14:9: (NASB) *And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one.*

This reminds us of the first commandment in Exodus 20:3: (KJV) - *Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.* When we think about the Abrahamic promise in Genesis 22:17,18: (KJV) - *In thee and thy seed shall ALL the nations of the earth be blessed, the seed has two parts. The sand of the seashore represents physical Israel; the stars of heaven represent spiritual Israel. God is now king*



over all the earth in this picture. All of these different Scriptures are pointing to the earth; so, we cannot ignore this straightforward Bible prophecy.



**Revelation 11:15:** (NASB) *Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.*

Again, this talks about the transformation of *the kingdom of the world to the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ*. It is God in control and Christ running the show. And when Christ is done, **1 Corinthians 15:28** tells us he will turn over the kingdom to God so *He may be all in all*. There is no question that this takes place on the earth. Remember the Lord's Prayer? Why did Jesus tell us to pray in **Matthew 6:10:** (KJV), *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven?* Look at all these verses we have considered. This is what the prophecies are telling us.

**Micah 4:1-3:** (NASB) <sup>1</sup>*And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it...*

Mountains represent governments in Scripture. Here Micah is saying the mountain of the Lord will be the chief mountain or government, the overriding governing principle and power in all the earth. The people will stream to it.

<sup>2</sup>*Many nations will come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.* <sup>3</sup>*And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations...*

This talks about the peoples of the world saying, *Let us go to the God of Jacob, and learn of Him*. Have we ever seen this before? This has not happened. This is what the *future* will look like. God will be recognized as the God of Israel. Israel was God's chosen people from the beginning. Israel made some serious mistakes, but they still have a special relationship with God. This verse says the capital of the earthly kingdom will be in Jerusalem. This is part of the gospel. Does Christianity preach *this part* of the gospel? Are we able to rejoice at what the Scriptures as a whole are teaching us?



Now we have God judging and all these things happening. Once all these processes are put in motion, then what happens?

*...Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.*

They will *never again train for war*. All the implements of war are turned into implements of growth and the development of the earth. This is a very specific prophecy.

The Scriptures picture the beautiful imagery of the earthly kingdom, shelter for all (the vine), and food for all (the fig tree). In John 15:1-17, the night before his crucifixion, Jesus says to his disciples, *I am the vine, you are the branches*. Jesus used the vine as a picture of himself. The branches are the church. The fig tree is a picture of Israel. The world will sit under the vine and branches - Jesus and his church, the reconcilers. They will also sit under the fig tree - under the compassionate rule of justice, wisdom and love of the true church and of Israel because God is with them. Not only will they have their physical world in order and secure, but at this point they will have their spirituality set. This is a beautiful picture of God's kingdom.



From the very beginning, God had this plan. The earthly creation was precious and special to Him. God did not make a mistake. He allowed sin to get in the way so that the lessons of sin could be learned once and forever. That is the beauty of God's plan!



Once again, does Christianity preach this gospel? God has always had it in place and the Scriptures are replete with evidence and examples of how this plan works. What do we do when we see these things in the Bible? If they are not in conjunction with what we are being taught, maybe we need to make some decisions.

Do we want the gospel of tradition or the gospel of the holy word of God?

*So, does Christianity preach the gospel?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!*



Join us next week for our podcast on September 7, 2020  
Ep. 1142: Why Did God Allow Slavery in the Bible?

### Bonus Material and Study Questions

*We are either in the process of resisting God's truth or in the process of being shaped and molded by his truth. — Charles Stanley*

#### One other verse warning of the corruption of the gospel:

Matthew 7:15-20: (NASB) <sup>15</sup>Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup>You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? <sup>17</sup>So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup>A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup>So then, you will know them by their fruits.

#### What about people being punished for their sins?

Romans 2:5-9: (KJV) <sup>5</sup>But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; <sup>6</sup>who will render to every man according to his deeds: <sup>7</sup>to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: <sup>8</sup>but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, <sup>9</sup>tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;



**2 Peter 2:9:** (KJV) *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of **judgment <2920>** to be **punished<2849>**:*

**Punished:** Strongs #2849 kolazo; (dwarf); properly, to curtail, i.e. (figuratively) to chastise (or reverse for infliction)

Greek English Lexicon definition: - punish; 1) to lop or prune, as trees and wings; 2) to curb, check, restrain; 3) to chastise, correct, punishment; 4) to cause to be punished

**Judgment:** Strongs #2920 krisis, decision; by extension, a tribunal, by implication, justice

### Only other use:

**Acts 4:21:** (KJV) *So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might **punish <2849>** them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.*

**Psalms 9:8:** (NASB) *And He will judge the world in righteousness; He will execute judgment for the peoples with equity.*

The gospel is relevant as a primary tool to show man sin and to show him the way to forgiveness through Christ.

Here are more Scriptures indicating a coming godly kingdom on this earth. When you read these, see how clear it is that they are talking about earth and not heaven:

**Daniel 7:13-14:** (NRSV) *<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.*

**Zephaniah 3:9:** (KJV) *...all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.*

**Micah 4:1-5:** (KJV) *<sup>1</sup>But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. <sup>2</sup>And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. <sup>4</sup>But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. <sup>5</sup>For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.*

**Jeremiah 31:29-34:** (NRSV) *<sup>29</sup>In those days they shall no longer say: The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge. <sup>30</sup>But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. <sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, Know the LORD, for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.*





**Isaiah 35:5-10: (KJV)** <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. <sup>6</sup>Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. <sup>7</sup>And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Isaiah 65:21-25: (NRSV)** <sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of My people be, and My chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD-and their descendants as well. <sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all My holy mountain, says the LORD.

We are to witness the good news to all as much as possible. We are not responsible to “save” our listeners, as they will have a resurrection either way (and they will have complete accountability), but we are responsible for teaching and preaching the word of God.

**Romans 10:12-16: (NRSV)** <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. <sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! <sup>16</sup>But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, Lord, who has believed our message?

## Christian Questions Weekly Newsletter

CQ Rewind Show Notes and Study Questions

Text

**CQREWIND**

to **22828** to get started.



# Study QUESTIONS

## Ep. 1141: Does Christianity Preach the Gospel?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1141-gospel/>

See:  **CQ.Rewind**  
SHOW NOTES

1. What is the gospel message? Why is it such good news for ALL? (See Genesis 3:15, 22:17-18, Habakkuk 2:14, Luke 2:10-11, Hebrews 2:9,14, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 John 2:2)
2. Does the gospel promise a life of wealth and ease to Christians? If not, what does it promise to them? (See Deuteronomy 28:3-6, 2 Timothy 4:3-4, 1 Peter 4:12-13)
3. What does the gospel teach about our responsibilities to our Christian congregations? (See Malachi 3:10, Galatians 6:2-3, 2 Timothy 3:1-2)
4. What is the gospel message regarding speaking in tongues and healing the world? (See Isaiah 35:5-6, Zephaniah 3:9, Acts 2:7-8, 5:14-16, 1 John 4:1)
5. What does the gospel teach us about heaven, hell and the future of unbelievers? (See Luke 16:23-24, John 5:28-29, Romans 5:18, 1 Timothy 4:1-2, 2 Peter 3:8)
6. How can we use our actions to preach the gospel in our daily lives? (See Matthew 5:13-16, 1 Peter 2:9,12)
7. What is our role as Christians regarding the gospel message? Why is this so important? How does the world benefit? (See Romans 5:15-18,18-22, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19)
8. What can we learn about the gospel from Old Testament prophecies? (See Psalms 22:27-28, 86:9, Isaiah 11:9, Daniel 2:44, Micah 4:1-4, Habakkuk 2:14, Zechariah 14:9, Revelation 11:15)
9. What is your understanding of the gospel message? Which Scriptures lead you to this conclusion?
10. Do you let your light shine to those around you in your everyday life? How so?