

Keep the Gospel Central
Romans 16:21-27
May 21, 2017

Main Point

The gospel is God's revelation of His wisdom, power, and glory in the salvation of sinners by Jesus. Keep your focus on Jesus and His gospel.

1. The gospel is about the church (v. 21-23)
2. The gospel is about the power of God to save and sustain sinners (v. 25a)
3. The gospel is the wisdom of God to save sinners according to His Word (v. 25b-26a)
4. The gospel is about God's love for the nations (v. 26b)
5. The gospel is, ultimately, about the glory of God (v. 27)

Cross References and Quotations:

Philippians 2:20-22 (NKJ): “For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. ²¹ For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. ²² But you know his proven character, that as a son with *his* father he served with me in the gospel.”

Romans 1:16-17 (NKJ): “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.””

Romans 3:10-12 (NKJ): “As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. ¹² They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.””

Romans 6:22-23 (NKJ): “But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. ²³ For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Tim Keller: “This reminds us that the gospel is not only the entry point into the Christian life; it is also the way we continue in, grow in, and enjoy life with Christ.”

William Hendricksen: “The essence of the mystery was this, that one day the Gentiles would not only be entering God’s kingdom in large numbers but would be fellow-sharers, participants on equal terms, with the elect from among the Jews.”

Colossians 1:27 (NKJ): “To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

1 Corinthians 1:20-24 (NKJ): “... Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

Isaiah 49:6 (NKJ): “Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’”