

The Purpose for Preaching the Gospel

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I. Let us first deal with common modern-day misconceptions about the gospel

A. Faith in the gospel is not the means to (nor a requirement for) being born again

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness...faith,

Eph 2:8 ...saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith...

Php 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to believe on him...

Rom 3:3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Rom 3:4 God forbid...

2Ti 2:13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

B. Regeneration is a direct act of God (Assisted by nothing—Without any means)

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth...so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Joh 5:25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

Psa 65:4 Blessed *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee*...

C. Man is impotent to raise himself from his nature (God must be the one to come)

Joh 6:44 **No man can come** to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him...

Joh 6:65 ...**no man can come** unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 5:40 And **ye will not come** to me, that ye might have life.

1Co 2:14 But the **natural man** receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are **foolishness unto him: neither can he know** *them*...

Joh 3:3 ...Except a man be born again, **he cannot see** the kingdom of God.

Joh 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because **ye cannot hear** my word.

Rom 3:11 There is **none that understandeth**, there is **none that seeketh** after God.

Joh 12:39 Therefore **they could not believe**...

D. God's plan of eternal salvation is all of God

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom **HE** did predestinate, them **HE** also called: and whom **HE** called, them **HE** also justified: and whom **HE** justified, them **HE** also glorified.

II. The real truth of real grace gives real peace

A. Some peace comes to anyone who knows the name of Jesus and believes in Him

1. Yet, there is very little peace in trying to figure: "How much good is good enough?"
2. There is a lack of peace in trying to figure: "How much faith is faith enough?"
3. Many don't know what real peace is: "*Peace, peace, when there is no peace*"

B. Salvation by grace—And grace alone—Without man's help—Is the real truth

C. The real truth about the real Savior gives real peace

D. The more real truth that you have—The more real peace that you have

III. So, if preaching doesn't save people to heaven, why do we bother to preach?

A. I say again—God gives eternal life without the help of preaching or the gospel

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life...

2Ti 1:8 ...the gospel according to the power of God;

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

B. Though God gives the life—The gospel gives enlightenment & peace about the life

2Ti 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to **light through the gospel**:

Luk 1:76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

Luk 1:77 **To give knowledge** of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

Luk 1:78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

Luk 1:79 **To give light** to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

IV. Belief in the gospel of peace does save (But in the *Livin' Whatcha Been Given* phase)

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Rom 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the **gospel of peace**, and bring glad tidings of good things!

V. The Bible teaches two aspects of peace—Peace from God's view—And from ours

2Co 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

A. The aspect of reconciliation that involves God being at peace toward us

2Co 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

—God's part is that God *hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ*

—God's part is past tense—God-finished—God-accomplished reconciliation

—God-accomplished reconciliation does not hinge upon me knowing it is so

—God knows He has reconciled—Whether I know it or not—Believe it or not

—My not knowing what I don't know—Can't make God not know what He already knows

—Truth is truth—Because it is truth—Not because it is believed to be truth

—We don't have to believe that Jesus did what He did for it to become real

—God knows what God knows—In spite of man's not knowing what God knows

—God has peace of mind about the finished salvation of all His children

—If your mind comes to know what God already knows—You can have peace of mind

B. The aspect of reconciliation that involves us feeling to be at peace toward God

2Co 5:18 ...and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

1. Be ye reconciled to God—No contradiction—The preacher has a different work

- The preacher has nothing to do with eternal salvation and reconciliation
- God does not tell the preacher to do what Jesus has already done
- The preacher's part is to tell you that God has finished His part

2. The preacher's part is the *ministry of reconciliation* and the *word of reconciliation*

- By God's grace—God has given His ministers the *word of reconciliation*
 - By the preached gospel of peace—You can come to know what God already knows
 - Your belief did not cause God to reconcile you to Himself—He did that long ago
 - Your belief that Christ accomplished eternal peace—Lets you now have peace
 - God reconciled you to Himself—When Jesus accomplished reconciliation
 - You are reconciled to God—When you know God has already reconciled you
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- God reconciling you to Himself by Jesus Christ gives you eternal life
 - Your being reconciled to God through the gospel gives you peace about eternal life
 - The first satisfies God's mind—While the second satisfies your mind
 - The first made you acceptable to God—The second makes you know you are
 - The gospel does not give spiritual life—It gives light to one who has life
 - The message of reconciliation does not make you right with God
 - It lets you come to know that Jesus has already made you right with God

VI. The word '*gospel*' means *good news*

- The truth that God-accomplished reconciliation gets us to heaven is good news
 - A so-called gospel binds the burden of saving from hell on its believers
 - The true gospel of peace lets its believers know that they don't have to do that
 - The truth about the gospel of peace shall make you free
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- Most modern-day Christians live in fear—Instead of peace
 - Being eternally saved—And knowing you are—Are two different things
 - Believing that salvation is by works gives no real peace
 - Believing that salvation is by faith gives a bit of so-called peace
 - Real mind-settling peace comes in knowing real Bible-taught grace

VII. So, what is the gospel for? —If God has already saved us, why bother to preach?

- I preach the gospel so God's children won't have the fears my mother had as a child
 - (She thought her only chance to get to heaven was to die in her sleep)
 - There is no peace in believing you are *good enough*—Or that you have *faith enough*
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- I preach the gospel of grace—So you can know that God has already saved you

- I want you to know that God has made peace—Then you can have peace
 - I have a *ministry of peace* to proclaim—A *gospel of peace* to preach
 - God’s children need to know what God already knows
 - God’s people need to have assurance about their eternal salvation
- You need the peace of mind that only comes by believing the gospel of grace
- Three things accomplished by preaching the truth of the gospel of salvation by grace
 - The true gospel of peace will *guide our feet into the way of peace. Luk 1:79*
 - If you come to know the truth: *the truth shall make you free. Joh 8:32*
 - Belief in grace glorifies God: *He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 1Co 1:31*