



What is the Gospel?

This explanation of the Gospel defines God as follows:

The Bible teaches that there is only one true God.

This one God is three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The core message of the Gospel is that God sent Jesus (the Son) to reconcile humanity with God (the Father) through His life, death, and resurrection because God (the Father) loves humanity.

According to the Bible, all humans are sinners and separated from God because of their sin. When we disobey any of God's commandments, we sin. (James 2:10).

By dying in the place of sinful humanity, Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for our sins, offering forgiveness and a restored relationship with God to all who believe in Him.

Jesus conquered sin and death through His resurrection, offering the hope of eternal life to all who trust in Him. Otherwise, people who do not believe that Jesus' life, death, and resurrection paid for their sins will suffer an afterlife in an eternal fire called Hell (Mark 16:16).

We don't have the power to make ourselves believe that Jesus died for our sins because, by nature, we are spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1-10).

In the Person of the Holy Spirit, God produces faith among those who hear God's Word (1 Corinthians 12:3, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:17, 2 Timothy 3:15). Faith is a gift of God, created and preserved by the Holy Spirit working through the Word and sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion).

Only those who have faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior at the end of their lives will be saved from Hell (Matthew 24:13, Matthew 10:22, Mark 13:13, Revelation 2:10). There are no second chances after a person dies (Hebrews 9:27).

Jesus' resurrection is the proof that Jesus not only forgave your sins and conquered Hell, but it is also the promise that because He lives, you also will live. When you die, as a believer, you will live with Him forever (John 14:18-23).

Jesus told people to repent of their sins, believe in Him as their Savior and Lord, and follow Him as His disciples. Faith in Jesus promises forgiveness of sins, adoption into God's family, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and the hope of eternal life in God's presence.

Our conversion and salvation are accomplished by God's grace -- God's undeserved love for you and me. We contribute nothing (Ephesians 2:8-9). This truth separates Christianity from all other religions since all other religions depend on human works. Our salvation is based on what Jesus Christ did for us (Romans 5:7-9). He paid the penalty for our sins so that we could live with Him forever.