

# Gospel Theology - Mini Course

## Biblical Foundations

Welcome. As we begin to understand Gospel Theology, it's important to lay down some biblical groundwork. When we think about the word 'Gospel', in Christendom, the word Gospel has become so overused that it means everything and absolutely nothing at all. Like the word community or awesome or love. These words have become so overused in such a way they've lost value, they've lost its meaning. This has become true with the word Gospel.

We're going to go through a quick biblical survey of how the word Gospel is used in scripture to help us *get back* to the meaning and value. To help us inform our definition of the word Gospel.

What do we learn from this passage?

### **Eph 1:13**

*And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation..."*

The gospel is a message of truth.

What about this one?

### **Rom 1:2**

*The gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures. The gospel is a promise. A promise to God's people that we can have assurance in.*

What is the big idea about the Gospel from this passage?

### **Col 1:5-6**

*The faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.*

The gospel bears fruit. The gospel is not just words, it's not just a promise. It's not just truth, it bears fruit and advances in people's lives.

Let's look at a few more and land the plane:

### **Mark 1:1**

*The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,...*"

The gospel is a person, Jesus Christ, his life, death, and resurrection.

### **1 Th 1:4–5**

*For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.*

What do we learn from this passage?

The gospel has power! It's dynamic, not static. It comes in power, not just words. The gospel isn't just informative words you keep in your knowledge bank. It is dynamic power!

### ***What about this passage?***

### **2 Tim 1:9–10**

*He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.*

This a paradigm shift. This is unlike what any other religion says. The gospel is given to us by grace in Christ before the beginning of time. In other words, you were chosen to be his before time, not while you were knit in your mother's womb, but before that. You were ideated in the mind of God to be his chosen adopted child before the beginning of time to spend eternity with him. Isn't that incredible?!

Let's look at this last one:

### **1 Pet 2:9**

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

The gospel is something we proclaim, something we declare, that we herald. It's imperative the gospel be proclaimed because there is power in the proclamation of the gospel.

The gospel is a Person, Power, Paradigm, Proclamation.

If you think about it you tend to lean in on one of these more than the other. Some of you when you think about the gospel, you think a person. Others of you, you think about it's something we proclaim, and then some of you think it's a power. But it's all of those things. It's more than this, but it's at least this.

The gospel is the power of God that saves us through person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who lived a perfectly obedient, sinless life, died for our sin, was resurrected from the grave by the power of the Spirit. And as his chosen child, his royal priesthood, his holy people, we are to proclaim his glory, his excellency, to declare his gift of salvation to help lead others out of darkness and into his marvelous light.