

## The Necessity Of The Gospel

1Cor.8:4-7a; Acts 4:12

8-1-2010

Last Weeks lesson was “The Need For The Gospel” and what we saw was that the need is for ignorance to be replaced by truth. If Jesus is not Lord, your Lord, you are still, yet lost. We saw in God’s Word conclusive proof that the whole world is under the deception of the evil one, the god of this world. Not only is the world deceived but enslaved, entrapped, sinful, lost, and condemned. The Gospel message is needed to show the true state of a person so that they can do what is needed to effect or bring about the only cure. (there is no one and no thing that can do what the gospel can do, or rather what only God can do for us and to us.) (Mk.16:15-16; Rm.1:16)

The necessity of the Gospel is this, there is no other way. This is the only message that contains the way for a person to be saved. Acts 4:12 tells us that there is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved. That name is Jesus. There is no substitution for gaining an entrance into eternal life and escape the judgments to come. (1Cor.8:4-6)

Paul was convinced of this truth. When he was confronted by the glory of Jesus and the reality of His existence on the Damascus road he became a believer. Paul repented and was baptized for the remission of his sins and became a recipient of the Spirit of life. Paul thought he knew God but he found the truth of Jesus’ words that the pathway to knowing God was through Jesus. (Jn.14:6-7) We can see from Paul’s word to Ephesus that there are no substitutes. There is only one Lord and Savior, Only One God and father, There is only one Holy Spirit, only one body, one faith, one baptism and only one hope. (Eph.4:4-6)

All of humanity has two events that will be faced; death and judgment. (Heb.9:27-28) This is not a terror to those who have resolved their destinies but for those who have not, terror may be a word way too soft. For them these words are true – they are without hope and without God. (Eph.2:12) There is for sure something to fear in the futures of all who reject God’s provisions of redemption, His wrath and judgment. (Rom.2:5-11)

So the necessity of the gospel is this; there is no philosophy, no gimmick, no science and no other religion that brings with it the very words of life. The Gospel message contains the precious process that when believed and followed will bring eternal life and freedom from wrath and judgment.

Some simple truths must be recognized for the truth they proclaim: First, Jesus is the only source of eternal life. (Acts 4:12) Second, people stand condemned because they are sinners, not because God is cruel or mean. (Isa.59:2ff; Rom.3:23) Third, the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus is true. And next but not last, the process of salvation includes believing the gospel message, (1Cor.15:1ff) repentance from past sins,(Acts 20:21) confession before God and man of that belief,(Rom.10:9-10) baptism for the remission of sin, (Acts 2:38, 8:35-38) and walking in the new life given by God. (Mat.28:18-20; Eph.4:22-24; 5:8ff)

These things are necessary because entrance into the Kingdom of God requires being born a second time, a re-birth into life. By remaining just flesh and blood no one will enter heaven. (1Cor.15:50) To enter the Kingdom of heaven a person must be born again by water and the Spirit. (Jn.3:3,5,17-21) This message is brought to you by the God who loves you and does not want you to perish. (2Pt.3:9ff)