

The Gospel of Liberty

Colossians 1:13 "He has **delivered us** from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into the kingdom** of the Son of His love"

Our #1 mission as Christians is to, "**go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.**" (Mark 16:15)

- What do you understand "the gospel" to be?
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If we don't have a complete understanding of what the gospel, or "good news", actually is, we will not be able to experience the full measure of what God has given us in the gift of His Son.

What "Good News" Did Jesus Preach?

- **John the Baptist:** "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the _____ of heaven is _____!" **Matthew 3:1-2**
- **Jesus:** "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**" **Matt. 4:17**
- **The Disciples:** "As you go, preach, saying, "**The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**" **Matthew 10:7**

This message was identified by Jesus Himself as "the gospel":

Mark 1:14-15 ¹⁴ "Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching **the gospel of the kingdom of God,** ¹⁵ and saying, "**The time is _____, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the _____.**"

- According to Jesus Christ, the gospel is **THIS** specific news → "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand."

When Would this Kingdom Come?

Luke 17:20-21 ²⁰ "Now when He was asked by the Pharisees **when** the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "**The kingdom of God does _____ come with observation;** ²¹ **nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!'** For indeed, the kingdom of God is _____."

The Promise & the Instructions:

- **Luke 24:49** "Behold, I send you **the _____ of My Father** upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are _____ with _____ from on high."
- **Acts 1:8** "But **you shall receive power** when the _____ has come upon you; and you shall be _____ to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The Fulfillment:

- **Acts 2:1-4** ¹ "When the **Day of _____** had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all _____ **with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in tongues (or languages), as the Spirit gave them utterance."

- **Colossians 1:13** "He has _____ **us** from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into the** _____ of the Son of His love"
- **Ephesians 2:19-22** ¹⁹ "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but **fellow citizens** with the saints and members **of the household of God**,²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, **grows into a holy** _____ **in the Lord**,²² in whom you are being built together for a _____ place of God in the Spirit."
- The kingdom of God which Jesus preached is here today! It is not yet a physical kingdom, but it is **within us**. We become the "living stones" of God's temple on earth (**1 Pet. 2:5**) when we invite Christ to dwell within us by His Spirit.

Saved by His Life

Romans 5:10 "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, _____ , having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His** _____ ."

- In **John 14:18-20** Jesus comforted His disciples before his death saying, ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphans, _____ **will** _____ **to you**. ¹⁹ A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but **you will see Me. Because I** _____ , **you will live also**. ²⁰ At that day you will know that I am in the Father, and you in Me, and _____ **in you**."

He echoed this promise in His prayer to His Father (**John 17:22-23**), where He said: "And **the** _____ **which You gave Me, I have given them**, that they may be one just as We are one: **I in** _____ , **and You in Me**; that they may be made perfect in one, and that **the world may know** that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."

The Mystery of the Gospel

- **The Problem:** A severed connection between mankind and God—the only Source of life.
- **The Solution:** Jesus would conquer where Adam had failed, and rejoin the human family to the family of God.
 - **Acts 2:33** "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, [Jesus] _____ out this which you now see and hear."
 - **Romans 5:17** "For if by the one man's offense death reigned through [Adam], much more those who _____ abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."

This is why Paul asked the church of Ephesus to pray for him, that he may be given the words to boldly make known what he called "the mystery of the gospel" (**Eph. 6:19**), and he identified what this mystery was in **Col. 1:27**, saying "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 _____ ."

"_____ **in you, the hope of glory**" is the mystery of the gospel! The entire gospel is beautifully summed up in **Gal. 4:3-6**:

³ "Even so we, when we were children, were in _____ **under the elements of the world**. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. ⁵ To redeem those who were under the law, that we might **receive the** _____ **as sons**. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth **the Spirit of His** _____ into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Matthew 24:14 "And **this gospel of the kingdom** will be preached in all the world as a _____ to all the nations, and then the end will come."

How Will this Gospel Be Preached?

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the** _____ **that I do he will do also**; and _____ **works** then these he will do, **because I go to My Father**."

- **Matthew 4:23-24** ²³ "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, **preaching the _____ of the kingdom**, and _____ all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. ²⁴ Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon possessed, epileptics, and paralytics, and **He healed them.**"
- **Acts 10:37-38** ³⁷ **that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea**, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing _____ and healing all who were _____ by the devil, for **God was with Him.**"

If the kingdom of God on earth today is Christ's *spiritual* body (**1 Cor. 12:27**), we should be doing the same things His *physical* body did while He was on earth. He told us this exact fact:

- **Mark 16:17-20** ¹⁷ "And these signs _____ **follow those who _____**: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." ¹⁹ So then after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, **the Lord working _____ them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.**"

"Actions Speak Louder than Words"

1 John 3:8 says, "For **this purpose** the Son of God was _____, that He might destroy the works of the devil." And in **John 14:21** Jesus promised, "**he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and _____ to him.**"

Let's return to **John 14:12**: "**Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.**"

- Has this promise ever been retracted? If we have been "delivered from the power of darkness, and conveyed into the kingdom of the Son," why do we still find ourselves subject to the powers of the enemy?
- There is a **condition** to receive this promise: "**He who _____**"
- **A Conditional Promise:** The demon-possessed boy (**Mark 9:14-29**)
 - **Matthew 17:19-21** ¹⁹ "Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁰ So Jesus said to them, "**Because of your _____**; for assuredly I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and _____ will be impossible for you. ²¹ However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Do You Believe?

Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with _____ **spiritual blessing** in the heavenly places in Christ,"

Romans 8:10 "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the _____ **of the sons of God.**"

- This revealing cannot happen until each of God's people can say, as Paul did, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but _____ **lives in me**; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by _____ in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (**Galatians 2:20**)

We must be willing to put self aside and receive His Spirit, and believe every Word He has said about who we are, and what we have in Him. As **2 Corinthians 3:17** says, "the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is _____."