



World Christian Fellowship

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Galatians

Lesson 01 Right Gospel

Cry of a man's heart is to how to be right with God?

Job 9:2, *"Truly I know it is so, But how can a man be righteous before God?"*

Job was a man of good character.

Job 1:1, & 8, *There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.*

⁸ *Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"*

- blameless,
- upright,
- fearing God, and
- turning away from evil.

Job 7:3-9, *So I have been allotted months of futility, And wearisome nights have been appointed to me. ⁴When I lie down, I say, 'When shall I arise, And the night be ended?' For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn. ⁵My flesh is caked with worms and dust, My skin is cracked and breaks out afresh.*

⁶ “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, And are spent without hope. ⁷ Oh, remember that my life is a breath! My eye will never again see good. ⁸ The eye of him who sees me will see me no more; While your eyes are upon me, I shall no longer be. ⁹ As the cloud disappears and vanishes away, So he who goes down to the grave does not come up.

Job 7:11-21, “Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

¹² Am I a sea, or a sea serpent,
That You set a guard over me?

¹³ When I say, ‘My bed will comfort me,
My couch will ease my complaint,’

¹⁴ Then You scare me with dreams
And terrify me with visions,

¹⁵ So that my soul chooses strangling
And death rather than my body.

¹⁶ I loathe my life;
I would not live forever.

Let me alone,
For my days are but [\[c\]](#)a breath.

¹⁷ “What is man, that You should exalt him,
That You should set Your heart on him,

¹⁸ That You should visit him every morning,
And test him every moment?

¹⁹ How long?
Will You not look away from me,

And let me alone till I swallow my saliva?

²⁰ Have I sinned?

What have I done to You, O watcher of men?

Why have You set me as Your target,

So that I am a burden to myself?

²¹ Why then do You not pardon my transgression,

And take away my iniquity?

For now I will lie down in the dust,

And You will seek me diligently,

But I will no longer be.”

In response to Job his friend Bildad Shuhite answers.

Job 8:2-6, *“How long will you speak these things,
And the words of your mouth be like a strong wind?*

³ Does God subvert judgment?

Or does the Almighty pervert justice?

⁴ If your sons have sinned against Him,

He has cast them away for their transgression.

⁵ If you would earnestly seek God

And make your supplication to the Almighty,

⁶ If you were pure and upright,

Surely now He would awake for you,

And prosper your rightful dwelling place.

That is the answer of all religion is that you “be a good person”.

Job 9:2-25,

This kind of feeling comes from to the heart,

- anguish,
- fear,
- dread

who fears God,
who fears His judgment, and
who fears His wrath.

That is the missing decree in the church today, and so sinners live with a deception. They constantly hear, “God loves you unconditionally.”

You are headed for God’s eternal wrath unless you are reconciled to Him.

How can a person be right with God?”

And Bildad gives the answer be good.

Every religion gives the same answer.

Psalms 130:3, *If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?*

Psalms 143:2, *Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous.*

Isaiah 64:6-7, *But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away. ⁷And there is no one who calls on Your name, Who stirs himself up to take hold of You; For You have hidden Your face from us, And have consumed us because of our iniquities.*

Micah 6:6-7, *With what shall I come before the Lord, And bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, With calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, Ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?*

How can I be righteous before God?

That is the pleading cry of psalmists, prophets, and Job.

Also, Martin Luther who tried everything.

Its been over 500 years since the reformation took place.

In 1517, He posted 95 theses condemning the practices of Roman Catholic system on the door of the Roman Catholic Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Which launched essentially the Reformation.

Habakkuk 2:4

Galatians 3:11

Romans 1:17

Hebrews 10:38

The just shall live” – or the righteous – “shall live by faith.”

Luther was a

- confused monk,
- tormented failure,
- lived in constant spiritual pain,
- was depressed,
- lived with constant anxiety and fear.

Catholic Church invented a place called purgatory. The purpose of purgatory was to purge the remaining sins of certain people who were too bad to go to heaven, but too good to go to hell. And there seemed to have been a lot of people too bad for heaven and too good for hell who needed some purging, and that was what happened supposedly in purgatory.

Luther was tortured on the inside by guilt and fear. Monks so feared God and the wrath of God, so feared Christ and the just throne of Christ and judgment of Christ that they turned to Mary. Mary, they were taught, was more compassionate than either the Father or the Son; and they would go to her, pleading with her to plead with Christ and plead with God on their behalf, to grant them salvation. In Luther's case, he knew he did not deserve.

Luther was taught like all monks, that salvation is by grace, but you must earn that grace. To earn that grace, one must reach a certain point of worthiness.

If you are worthy enough, God will give you grace. So, in order to become worthy, Luther went to the very extremes.

He renounced all self-will,
He ate basically a meagre bread and water kind of diet,
He struggled with uncomfortable clothing,
He inflicted pain in his shoes,
He inflicted pain around his waists,
Gave himself to sleepless vigils that went on,
He gave himself to begging,

He fasted so often that his friends were afraid he was going to die,
He walked 800 miles to Rome and 800 miles back,
Rome the Scala Sancta, the holy steps which were supposed to be the steps that our Lord went up into Pilate's judgment hall that were transported to Rome, crawled up those steps and kneeled at every step, bowed down and kissed the step,
He confessed to his priestly confessor, Staupitz for six hours every day. (Staupitz was so worn out by these long confessions that he said to Luther, "Do not come back unless you commit adultery or fornication. Stop with the endless confessions.")

Quote from Martin Luther: *"I tortured myself with praying, fasting, keeping vigils, and freezing. The cold was enough to kill me. I inflicted such pain as I would never inflict again."*

Luther was doing everything he could do, and God was not responding.

- He knew that he was by nature and behaviour a sinner,
- God was by nature and behaviour absolutely holy,
- the gulf was infinite,
- he could not cross that gulf, and
- he left to himself could not satisfy God.

To sum up Martin Luther was very angry before coming to know the true Gospel.

Martin Luther: *“I did not love, yes, I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners; and secretly, if not blasphemously, certainly murmuring greatly, I was angry with God, and I said, ‘Is it not enough that miserable sinners eternally lost through original sin are crushed by the law of the Ten Commandments without having God add pain to pain by the gospel, and also by the gospel threatening us with His righteous wrath?’” “I raged against God with fierce and troubled conscience.”*

Luther said, “The epistle to the Galatians is my epistle.” , “To it I am, as it were, married. Galatians is my Katherine.”

Where such furious is in the shallows of contemporary Christianity.

Where is such fear of God and holy wrath?

The shallows of contemporary Christianity with its false gospels generate no such raging, because they generate no such fear.

Apostle Paul had the same question.

Romans 10:3-4, *For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.*

Jesus called, the narrow way and the broad way!

- ✓ They both say it leads you to heaven but they both don't go there.
- ✓ The narrow way is the way of the gospel, the way of grace, the way of faith, and it leads to life.
- ✓ The broad road is the way of works and religion and it says heaven, but it goes directly to hell.

There is no salvation apart from belief in the true gospel. All other messages, all other religions, all other gospels are demonic deceptions, Satanic religions in one form or another.

Galatians 1:9, *As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.*

The Roman Catholic Church developed a theology called "Natural Theology". Natural Theology says that people without the Bible, without the gospel, without any knowledge of Christ will show up in heaven and the kingdom of God. They will be reconciled to God. They will be forgiven and given eternal life.

According to the **Second Vatican Council** interpreted by the **Pope**, he said this: *"Those who live in accordance with the beatitudes and who bear lovingly the sufferings of life will enter the kingdom of God."*

So, if you are

- poor,
- humble,
- mourning, and suffering,
- without the Bible,
- without the gospel,
- without Christ,

you're going to be in the kingdom of God.

Protestants have another idea, and they call it **wider mercy**. They say that God's mercy is wider than just Christianity and wider than just the gospel. One writer said, *"God has more going on by way of redemption than what happened in first century Palestine"*.

N. T. Wright, a British Evangelical theologian, he quotes in His book, *The Day the Revolution Began*.

"We have paganized our understanding of salvation, substituting the idea of God killing Jesus to satisfy His wrath for the genuinely biblical notion we are about to explore."

So, he calls Jesus becoming the substitute that God killed to satisfy His wrath for us as paganism.

Further, he says, that *"Christ died in the place of sinners is closer to the pagan idea of an angry deity being pacified by a human*

death than it is to anything in either Israel's Scriptures or the New Testament."

So, he rejects substitutionary atonement. He rejects Jesus as the sacrifice that God chose to die for our sins.

He goes on to say, *"No one will be justified until he reaches heaven." "I must stress again that the doctrine of justification by faith is not what Paul means by the gospel. The gospel is not an account of how people get saved."*

1 Corinthians 15:1-2, *Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, ²by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.*

To be propagating a false gospel and denying the true gospel and have absolutely no fear, and no angst, and no guilt, and no dread, and no terror, and no torture is to be void of the work of the Holy Spirit who convicts of sin and righteousness and judgment.

What doesn't exist today in the church is that fear.

Where are the terrified people?

Where are the terrorized sinners?

Where is the angst?

Where is the dread?

Martin Luther, when the gospel broke on his soul the Holy Spirit gave him life, and peace and joy flooded him.

He was forgiven,

he was accepted,

he was reconciled,

he was converted,

he was adopted, and

he was justified solely by grace through faith.

Galatians 2:20, *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

Romans 3:21, *But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, Salvation given testimony to in the Old Testament. It is the righteousness of God that comes to the sinner through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe.*

Romans 3:24, *being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

Righteousness is not by the law.

Galatians 3:21, *Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law.*

How can a man be right with God?

By the righteousness of God being given to him by faith in Christ.

How non-negotiable is this gospel?

Galatians 1:6, *marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,*
V6, Different Gospel

Galatians 1:7, *which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.*

V7, Distorted Gospel

Paul writes to the church in Corinth

2 Corinthians 11:2-4, *For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!*

What an indictment?

Somebody comes with

- a different Jesus,
- a different Holy Spirit, and
- a different gospel,

and you bear it beautifully, you welcome them.

This is frightening.

Corrupted gospel –

- the gospel of works,
- the prosperity gospel,
- gospel of natural theology,
- the gospel of wider mercy,
- the new perspective on Paul,
- whatever you want to call it –

another gospel is not to be accepted.

Accursed is to be pronounced on another gospel.

Let's go to heaven and find out which gospel is being celebrated in heaven. There's only one heaven.

What gospel is heaven celebrating?

Are they celebrating any gospel of works, human merit?

Revelation 5:6-14, *And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. ⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe*

and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!” ¹⁴Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

How do we come into God’s presence?

We were bought by the blood of Jesus Christ. That is the substitutionary blood atonement of Christ.

All of heaven’s worship goes toward the Lamb who shed His blood.

That is the only gospel celebrated in heaven.

This is the gospel that Paul proclaims and defends.

Same Gospel we proclaim and defend!