

The Gospel of Jesus and His Kingdom

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:16ff.

II. The gospel is the power of God to rescue people from the wrath of God.

A. God's wrath is caused by godlessness and wickedness.

1. Godlessness is ignoring God in your daily life.

2. Wickedness is immoral and evil conduct, which comes from godlessness eventually.

B. Most people that we meet are under God's wrath.

III. The gospel is righteousness from God.

A. Righteousness is right conduct before God. (Romans 3:9, 18)

1. The fear of God is an awe of God.

2. None of us are righteous.

B. The righteousness that God provides through the gospel is apart from the law. (Romans 1:17, 3:21; Exodus 20)

1. This righteousness comes from faith in Jesus, which declares us not guilty before God. (Romans 3:23-24)

2. Jesus' life was perfectly righteous, even though He was raised in a normal family and faced normal situations. God takes Jesus' righteousness and credits it to us.

3. Jesus took our death penalty and God credits His death to us. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

a) God would deny His justice if He declared a guilty person innocent. (Romans 4:25ff)

b) Justice was satisfied by Christ's death.

IV. The gospel is for believers, not just unbelievers.

A. We should preach the gospel to ourselves every day because we still sin every day.

B. We need to recognize that we stand before God every day forgiven and accepted and we have His favor because of Jesus' performance, not ours.

1. The same righteousness of Jesus that saved us answers our prayers and allows us to be in God's favor. (2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:7-8)

2. God is no longer keeping score of your sins, even if He does discipline us.

Application questions:

1. What does Jerry mean when he says that believers should preach the gospel to themselves?
Why is this important?

2. How are you considered righteous (if you are a believer)?

3. How does the knowledge that God is no longer keeping score of your sins impact your perspective of your walk with God?
