



What the Gospel Is and Isn't

Brent Moody · Acts 16:30–33 · Series: **The Way Forward**

INTRODUCTION

- Mainly I want us to see just a simplicity of what the gospel message is.
- Wherever the gospel spreads, opposition followed close behind.
- Whenever there's new believers, unfortunately, there are new distortions that seem to come about from the message.

1 The Gospel Is Salvation Through Faith in Jesus

Acts 2:38; Acts 3:26

- The gospel is salvation through faith in Jesus.
- Jesus was killed. He's buried, and God raised him up to new life. He ascends, he's enthroned.
- Any who repent and submit to the will of Jesus, have forgiveness of sins and hope of resurrection to new life.
- God having raised up his servant, sent him to you first to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.
- This gospel message of death, burial, resurrection, ascension, is the same message to all of us, and what we will experience.

2 The Gospel Is Not Christ Plus Human Additions

Galatians 1:6–10; Acts 15:1; Romans 16:16

- Adding to the gospel means it's no longer the gospel, it's something different.
- I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel.
- When you say something has to be done that God doesn't say has to be done, that's a distortion. You've added to the gospel.
- We don't have some official God-given scriptural title that every church must have. We have a description of a church.
- Are we truly submitting to the will of Jesus? Are we actually obeying his will? Are we doing things his way?

3 Subtracting From the Gospel Message

Acts 3:26; 2 Timothy 4:3; Romans 2

- I can add to it, make up my own stuff, but I can also just take away vital aspects of what has been revealed to us in Scripture.
- The gospel is salvation through faith or belief in Jesus Christ. This is submission to his will.
- We don't continue in sin that grace may abound, Paul says.

- Anyone who tells you that obedience, that doing the works of God is not part of the gospel, does not understand the gospel.

4 The Gospel Is Not Christ Plus Religious Achievement

Acts 11; Acts 15; Romans 8:1

- The Jews believed in the grace of God. They just thought it was only for them.
- In Christ Jesus, we put no confidence in the flesh. It's not about what I've done.
- I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
- I can try to do good my whole life, and it's not going to make any difference in my standing without Christ.
- Paul doesn't say if you have enough achievements, if you spend enough time in assemblies, if you did enough right things, then you have no condemnation.

5 The Gospel Is Not Just a Human Philosophy

John 14:6; Romans 5

- The gospel is not just a human philosophy. It's not just some good path of life.
- They're not following Jesus because it's just a great philosophy of life.
- It's not all about good things happening now, it's about the life that is to come.
- We will all die. This perishable body will be done away with, and we'll be resurrected into an imperishable body.

THE CHALLENGE

Will I submit to him or not? Will I add things to what he said? Or will I take things away from where he said? Will I just do what he said?

MY NOTES
