

**WHAT IS THE
GOSPEL?**

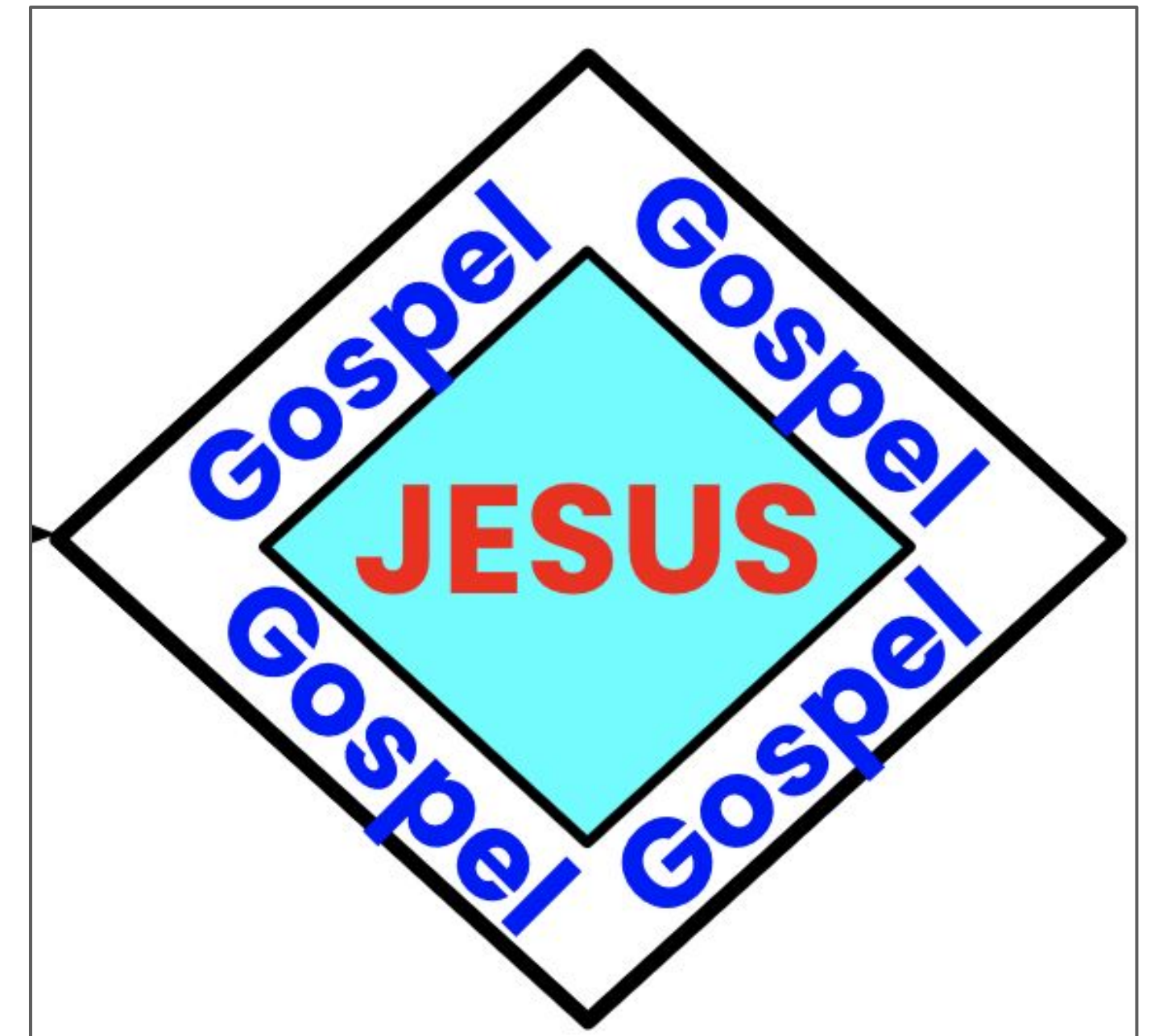
GOOD NEWS!

THE KINGDOM HAS COME

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

- Week 1: **GOOD NEWS!** The Gospel Can Be Known
- Week 2: **GOOD NEWS!** The Serpent & the Skull Crusher
- Week 3: **GOOD NEWS!** An Everlasting King is Coming
- Week 4: **GOOD NEWS!** A Mighty Prophet is Coming
- Week 5: **GOOD NEWS!** An Eternal Priest is Coming
- Week 6: **GOOD NEWS!** A Kingdom of Priests is Coming
- Week 7: **GOOD NEWS!** A Suffering Servant is Coming
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- Week 10: **GOOD NEWS!** THE PERFECT HIGH PRIEST HAS COME
- Week 11: **GOOD NEWS! THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME**
- Week 12: **GOOD NEWS! THE LAMB OF GOD HAS COME**
- Week 13: **GOOD NEWS! THE RESURRECTION GOSPEL**

A 13 week study



Prepared by Todd Frehafer
Grace Evangelical Congregational Church

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!”



The Kingdom of the Pure in Heart

John 12: 23-31 “And Jesus answered them, saying, ‘The hour has come for the **Son of Man** to be glorified. **24** Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. **25** He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. **26** **If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.** **27** Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. **28** Father, glorify Your name.’ Then a voice came out of heaven: ‘I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.’ **29** So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, ‘An angel has spoken to Him.’ **30** Jesus answered and said, “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. **31** Now judgment is upon this world; **now the ruler of this world will be cast out.**”

The Kingdom Now Parables

1. The Sower (Matthew 13:3-8)
2. The Tares (Matthew 13:24-30)
3. The Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32)
4. The Leaven (Matthew 13:33)
5. The Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:45)
6. The Pearl of Great Price (Matthew 13: 45)
7. The Drag Net (Matthew 13: 47-50)
8. The Blade, the Ear, and the Full Corn (Mark 4: 26-29)

The Kingdom Not of This World

Mark 1:14,15 “Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, **preaching the gospel of God, 15** and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.**”

Luke 17:20–21 “Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, ‘The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, “Look, here it is!” or “There!” for **behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.**”

John 18:36 “Jesus answered, ‘**My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting,** that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.’”

GOOD NEWS! The Kingdom of God's Love

Romans 5:8 "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

1 John 4:19 "We love because He first loved us."

James 2:5 "Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?"

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

Hebrews 12:6 "For the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives."

The Kingdom of the Pure in Heart

Matthew 5:1-12 "When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. **2** He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying, **3** **'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** **4** **Blessed are those who mourn,** for they shall be comforted. **5** **Blessed are the gentle,** for they shall inherit the earth. **6** **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,** for they shall be satisfied. **7** **Blessed are the merciful,** for they shall receive mercy. **8** **Blessed are the pure in heart,** for they shall see God. **9** **Blessed are the peacemakers,** for they shall be called sons of God. **10** **Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness,** for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** **Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.** **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

GOOD NEWS of Kingdom Election

Ephesians 1:4,5 “Even as **he chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **5** he **predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ**, according to the purpose of his will”

2 Thessalonians 2:13 “But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because **God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.**”

Luke 10:22 “All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and **anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.**”

2 Peter 1:10 “Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to **confirm your calling and election**, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.”

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

GOOD NEWS! The Kingdom Call to Sinners

Matthew 4:21 "Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and **He called them.**"

Matthew 9:13 "'But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for **I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**"

Matthew 22:3 "And he sent out his slaves to **call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they were unwilling to come.**"

Matthew 22:14 "**For many are called,** but few are chosen."

Romans 1:1 "Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, **called as an apostle,** set apart for the gospel of God"

Romans 1:6 "...among whom you also are the **called of Jesus Christ**"

GOOD NEWS of Kingdom Justification

Romans 5:1 “Therefore, since we have been **justified by faith**, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Titus 3:7 “So that being **justified by his grace** we might **become heirs** according to the hope of eternal life.”

Romans 3:28 “For we hold that one is **justified by faith apart from works of the law.**”

1 Corinthians 6:11 “And such were some of you. But you were **washed**, you were **sanctified**, **you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**”

Romans 5:9 “Since, therefore, we have now been **justified by his blood**, much more shall we be **saved by him from the wrath of God.**”

Philippians 3:9 “And be found in him, not having a **righteousness** of my own that comes from the law, but **that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith**”

GOOD NEWS of Kingdom Adoption

John 14:18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

Ephesians 1:5 "**He predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,"**

Galatians 3:26 "For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith"

John 1:12 "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, **he gave the right to become children of God**"

Romans 8:15 "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but **you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Romans 9:8 "This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but **the children of the promise are counted as offspring.**"

Romans 8:23 "And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as **we wait eagerly for adoption as sons**, the redemption of our bodies."

GOOD NEWS of Kingdom Sanctification

1 Thessalonians 5:23 “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

John 17:17 “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.”

Hebrews 10:14 “For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”

Hebrews 13:12 “So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.”

2 Corinthians 7:1 “Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.”

1 Peter 1:15–16 “But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’”

Romans 6:2 “By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?”

GOOD NEWS of Kingdom Ministries

Ephesians 4:11,12 “And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **12** to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ”

2 Corinthians 3:6 “Who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

1 Corinthians 3:5,6 “What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one. **6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.”

Luke 22:26 “But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves.”

Matthew 23:10–12 “Do not be called leaders; for One is your Leader, that is, Christ. **11** But the greatest among you shall be your servant. **12** Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.”

2 Timothy 2:15 “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

GOOD NEWS! The Kingdom Transforms Lives

1 Timothy 6:11,12 “But flee from these things, you man of God, and **pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.**”

2 Peter 1:4-9 “For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may **become partakers of the divine nature**, having **escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.** **5** Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in **your moral excellence, knowledge,** **6** and in your knowledge, **self-control,** and in your self-control, **perseverance,** and in your perseverance, **godliness,** **7** and in your godliness, **brotherly kindness,** and in your brotherly kindness, **love.** **8** For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9 For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.**”

The GOOD NEWS of Obedience to Christ

Romans 1:1-6 "Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for **the gospel of God, 2** which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, **3** concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, **4** who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, **5** through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake, 6 among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ".

GOOD NEWS Rewards of the Faithful Elect

Ephesians 1:1-14 “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, **To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace** from God our **Father** and the **Lord** Jesus **Christ**. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly places in Christ, **4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the **kind intention of His will**, **6** to the praise of the glory of His **grace**, which **He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved**. **7** In Him we have **redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses**, according to the **riches of His grace** **8** which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight **9** He **made known to us the mystery of His will**, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him **10** with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him **11** also **we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose** who works all things after the counsel of His will, **12** to the end that we who were the first to **hope** in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. **13** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of **truth, the gospel of your salvation**—having also believed, you were **sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit** of promise, **14** who is given as a **pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession**, to the praise of His glory.”**

GOOD NEWS! We are One in Christ Jesus

Galatians 3:23-29 “But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. **24** Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. **25** But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. **26** For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. **27** For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** **29** And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.”

The GOOD NEWS of Repentance

Acts 3:19 “Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”

Acts 17:30 “The times of ignorance God overlooked, **but now he commands all people everywhere to repent**”

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.”

1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Luke 15:7 “Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”

GOOD NEWS! Repentance Leads to Life

Acts 11:18 "When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, 'Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the **repentance that leads to life.**'"

John 5:39,40 "'You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; **40** and **you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.**'"

John 6:55-58 "'For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. **56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me,** and I in him. **57** As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so **he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me.** **58** This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; **he who eats this bread will live forever.**'"

GOOD NEWS! We are Saved by Faith

Romans 10:5-10 “For Moses writes that **the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law** shall live by that righteousness. **6 But the righteousness based on faith** speaks as follows: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down), **7** or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).” **8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”**

GOOD NEWS! Faith Leads to Eternal Life

John 3:16-18 “For **God so loved the world**, that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him** shall not perish, but **have eternal life**. **17** For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. **18** **He who believes in Him** is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John 20:30,31 “Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but **these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life** in His name.”

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**”

The Faithful Obey Christ's Commands

Luke 6:46-49 **“Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? 47 Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, **because it had been well built.** 49 **But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly**, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and **the ruin of that house was great.**”**

The Unrighteous Do Not Practice Sin

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 “Or do you not know that the **unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived**; neither **fornicators**, nor **idolaters**, nor **adulterers**, nor **effeminate**, nor **homosexuals**, **10** nor **thieves**, nor the **covetous**, nor **drunkards**, nor **revilers**, nor **swindlers**, **will inherit the kingdom of God. 11** **Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”

Christ Lovers Indwelt with the Holy Spirit

John 14:15 “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. **16** I will ask the Father, and **He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;** **17 that is the Spirit of truth,** whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but **you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.** **18 I will not leave you as orphans;** I will come to you. **19** After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; **because I live, you will live also.** **20** In that day you will know that **I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.** **21 He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me;** and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.’ **22** Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, ‘Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?’ **23** Jesus answered and said to him, **‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.** **24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words;** and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.’”

A Priesthood for God's Own Possession

1 Peter 2:4-10 "And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, **5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** For this is contained in Scripture: "**Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.**" **7** This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "**The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone,**" **8** and, "**A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense**"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. **9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession**, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; **10** for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

A Kingdom of Prophets

Acts 2:14-21 "But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. **15** For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day; **16** but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: **17** 'And it shall be in the last days,' God says, '**That I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy**, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. **18** **Even on My bondslaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy**. **19** And I will grant wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below: blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke. **20** The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and glorious day of the LORD shall come. **21** **And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**"

GOOD NEWS: The Faithful Reign with Christ

2 Timothy 2:8-13 “Remember **Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,** **9** for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned. **10** For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that **they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.** **11** It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; **12** **If we endure, we will also reign with Him**; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; **13** If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

Witness the GOOD NEWS of the Kingdom

Matthew 28: 18-20 “And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

Acts 1:6-8 “So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, ‘Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?’ **7** He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; **8** but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and **you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.**’”

**CHRIST COMMANDS US TO
PREACH THE GOSPEL,
BAPTIZE AND TEACH
OBEDIENT DISCIPLES
WHO BELONG TO HIM!**

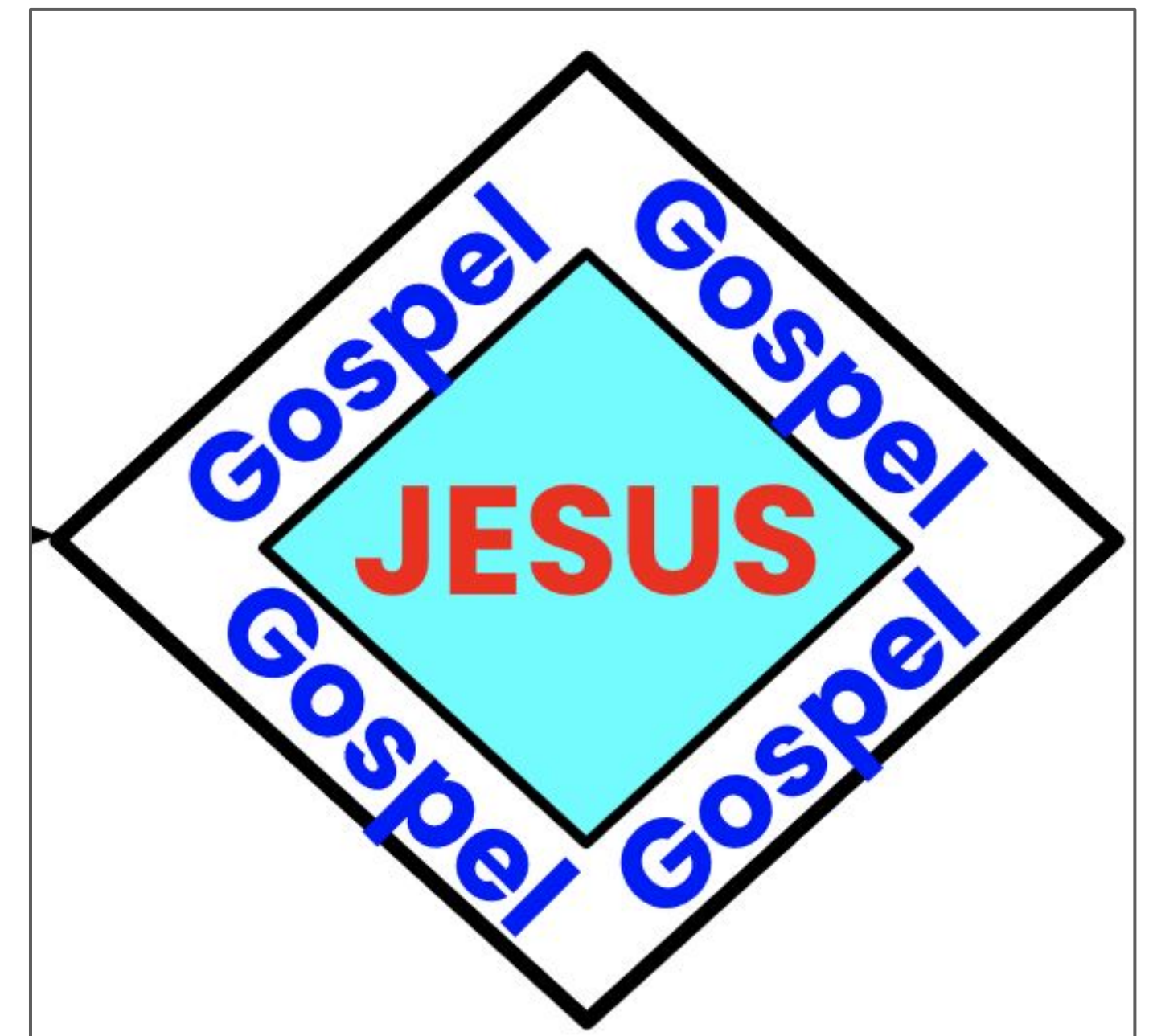
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