

Speaker: Stephen Marshall  
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Reading: Ephesians 2v1-10

Many passages speak of the gospel. There are some that encapsulate the whole message. Two such passages are:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”(John 3:16).

“When we were yet without strength Christ died for the ungodly”(Rom 5:6).

Ephesians 2

v1-3 Indicate our condition before we were saved

v4-10 Show us blessings we now have that we have received in Jesus Christ.

Do we understand the condition of those not saved?

How does God in heaven see men in this world?

God sees you as if you were dead you cannot do anything for self and are incapable of thinking or doing anything to save yourself.

The word “quicken” means “made alive”.

The apostle Paul had to admit that he too was dead in trespasses and sins.

“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God”(Rom 3:23).

The foundation of gospel is that man is a sinner before a holy God.

What is a sin? - not obeying the gospel – not accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour. This is enough to condemn you to a life of separation from God.

The first sin in the Bible is disobedience. It was enough to put Adam and Eve out of garden of Eden.

“Lust” - in mind. “bringeth forth sin” - action “sin bringeth forth death” (James 1:14,15).

“As by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin so death has passed upon all men for all have sinned”(Rom 5:12).

The devil has an influence in the world. Upon conversion you receive new life in Christ.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature, all things have passed away behold all things have become new”(2 Cor 5:17).

Would you like your life changed for all eternity? Only God can do that.

“but I obtained mercy” (1 Tim 1:13)

“chief of sinners” (1 Tim 1:15)

From persecuting Christians, Paul's life was changed and he died a Christian.

“For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain”(Phil 1:21).

Paul knew the word of God but it didn't make him right for eternity. God had to come into his life.

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Gen 1:1) – Do you believe the world just happened? God created you and me. He has an interest in you and me and our souls eternal welfare.

God showed His love in a peculiar way. He sent His Son to die upon the cross.

“Herein is love, not that we love God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins (to die for us)” (1 John 4:10)

The coming of Jesus Christ was prophesied and promised. Every prophecy was fulfilled. He was born in Bethlehem, He was born of a virgin. He was sinless.

“went about doing good...God was with Him” (Acts 10:38).

What did men do to Him? They killed Him and put Him on the cross.

He was not just a man. He was “God manifest in flesh” (1 Tim 3:16). He died as a substitute. He died for your sin and mine. “Christ died for the ungodly” (Rom 5:6). God loves us and gave us the remedy for our sin but we receive salvation by grace. Grace is God giving us what we did not deserve.

There is a place called hell and the lake of fire and that is what we deserve for eternity. I did not love God yet He loved me and gave me eternal life and forgiveness of sin. “For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord “(Rom 6:23)

When we are saved it is from an eternal judgment, from wrath to come and we are rescued from eternity of damnation.

“To be with Christ which is far better” (Phil 1:23).

You cannot get to heaven by anything you have done. Money only lasts for time, you cannot take it with you when you die.

Only God can forgive sins, only God has the gift of eternal life.

A gift is something paid for by another and chosen by another and given to us.

God has given us a purpose in life. It is to do good works, to show out that God has changed our life.