Speaker: Gordon Miller Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2011 Reading: 2 Corinthians 4v3-4, Luke 23v32-49

The word gospel means good news. There is no greater message than the gospel. A sinner can be made fit for heaven because of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. The gospel demands man to repent and place faith in Christ.

"In the beginning God". Before time, space and matter the eternal God existed. God knows our name tonight, where we stand and how we need Him. God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A trinity yet only One God. God started creation on the outside then moved to the inside and breathed into man the breathe of life. "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Psa 19:1). When we trust Christ as Saviour we should glorify God.

"Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3)

Adam was an intelligent man but he was responsible. God planted him in the garden with only one prohibition. In the cool of the day God came down and spoke with Adam, Adam and Eve experienced the love of God everyday. When the tempter came in they had a decision to make. They decided to listen to the voice of Satan. When Adam and Eve sinned they lost the blessings they had received from God.

"As by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, so death has past upon all men, for all have sinned" (Rom 5:12)

We need forgiveness and to repent because we are sinners and Christ has dealt with sin. If you are not saved, you are lost. You are under the power of sin and Satan.

When the people took Jesus to the cross they mocked, they gave Him a purple robe, they gave Him a crown of thorns, they placed a reed in His hand, they gave Him a cross for His throne. Despite all this He could say, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34)

"What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul" (Mark 8:36)

People gamble to hit a jackpot and be set up for life. As God looks down He places the soul in the balances with the world. Your soul is worth more than the world.

You could have eternal riches and eternal life.

One of Satan's greatest tricks is religion. People try to work their way to heaven. They try to do without Christ.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." (Rom 10:4).

Christ faced the wrath of God to make atonement for sin.

As the thief hung upon the cross next to Christ he would see the difference between Him and ordinary man.

Jesus is a wonderful Saviour.

We have the choice to choose Christ. We belong to the devil already in our natural state. Forgiven sin is forgotten sin. When you come to Christ and sin is forgiven it will be forgotten. On the cross Christ cried "It is finished".

If we trust Christ as Saviour there is nothing else to do.