

Speaker: Graeme Lamont

Date: 15th July 2012

It has been the same message for 2000 years. “[Jesus Christ the same](#)” (Heb 13:8).

Many think the Bible is out of date. You may think it is a collection of stories, historical events and fairy tales. It is still relevant. The Bible is the word of God. God's message for men and women hasn't changed and won't.

The invitation in the gospel has not changed.

Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7, 45:3-6, 21-22.

The message of the gospel is from the Lord God of heaven. “[so great salvation](#)”(Heb 2:3)

Before the Lord Jesus went to heaven He died on the cross, was buried and rose again the third day. He commissioned disciples to preach the gospel in all the world.

The message would have effect, “[he that believeth shall be saved but he that believeth not...](#)” (Mark 16:16) As man and woman hear today it is still true. No buts, maybes or perhaps. The word of God is everlasting, “[heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away](#)” (Matt 24:35).

What is the Lord saying to you today?

What God says:

“[I created thee](#)”

The God of the Bible is the one who created “[In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth](#)” (Gen 1:1). “[All things were made by Him](#)” (John 1:3). God “[Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever](#)” (Psalm 146:6).

Genesis 1 gives the record of creation “[He spake and it was done](#)” (Psa. 33:9). God's spoken word created all we see today.

No one sees electricity but we know it exists. So with creation, “[heavens declare the glory of God](#)” (Psa 19:1) “[For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse](#)” (Rom. 1:20)

What is our response?

“[Come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our God our maker](#)” (Psa 95:6).

“[I formed thee](#)”

Man is different from animals – created in the image of God. “[And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul](#)” (Gen 2:7) Man was special, man was different in God's creation.

Man was formed from the dust of the ground to have fellowship with God. Man has a spirit that lives forever and responds to God.

Man looks to something outwith himself. God has desire to communicate with you and me.

Something went wrong. “**And they** (Adam and Eve) **heard... and hid themselves**” (Gen 3:8). Communion was broken, Adam was afraid, sin had entered. Man was made with a free will. Man was created with ability to choose. Man chose to disobey God. God gave one test but man rebelled and disobeyed.

Sin has consequences. Sin will be judged, cannot be overlooked, cannot be tolerated.

Adam's sinful nature has been passed down the generations. David says, “**Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me**” (Psa 51:5). Who teaches a child to say no, to lie and do what they are told not to.

Man is guilty and results in punishment. Sin will be punished. Is there hope?

There is good news “**I have redeemed thee**”

'redeem' – recover possession or ownership of by payment of a price.

The slave set free from the slave market was redeemed. If one is kidnapped then a price is demanded for redemption. The price of redemption is high. We were bound by sin. Sin a Holy God could not tolerate. It required the sacrifice of His only Son on the cross.

“**As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment**” (Heb 9:27)

The price has been paid to set free from sin. God's Son came into the world and went to the cross and paid the price in full. God poured out upon His Son the price due for our sin. “**Christ died for our sins...**” (1 Cor 15:3) The price of redemption has been paid, “**In whom we have redemption through his blood**” (Eph 1:7).

“**I called thee**”.

God will not force you, He offers a free gift. The choice is yours whether to accept or reject. God loves you, God cares for you, God calls by name.

“**Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest**” (Mat 11:28)

“**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me**” (Rev 3:20)

He gives the invitation but won't force His way in.

Will you respond and come? Confess sin and trust the Lord Jesus to save.

The need to call is today. “**Behold now is the accepted time, Behold now is the day of salvation**” (2. Cor 6:2).

To reject means to continue in sin and face judgment. “**How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation**”(Heb 2:3). There is no other way.

“**Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God**” (Isa 45:22)

The response is yours. Will you come and accept the invitation?