

The Gospel – 4 resources

August 22, 2010, "Preaching the Gospel to Yourself," Smedly Yates

<http://gbcaz.org/2010/08/preaching-the-gospel-to-yourself/>

(See link for sermon outline with many Scripture references.)

Definition: It is the good news (that's what gospel means, "good news,") that God saves sinners.

By **God**, I mean the holy, omnipotent, sovereign Creator and Judge of the entire Universe.

By **sinners**, I mean me, and you, and every single human being who has ever lived, who commits high-handed treason against the sovereign Creator of the Universe. God hates sin, and we are sinners, and not primarily b/c we do bad things. We do bad things b/c we are by nature sinners.

By **saves**, I mean that we are saved FROM something TO something BY something. If you have adopted the Christian cliché of, "I'm saved," but don't know what you're saved from, or to, or by, there's a problem.

By **saved**, we simply mean this: we are saved FROM sin—sin's consequences, Satan, this anti-God world system, and ourselves. I am saved from myself. And ultimately I am saved from God Himself.

We must be rescued from God and His hatred of sin b/c we are by nature and by activity sinful. God hates sin. We must be saved from God and His wrath against our sin.

And we are saved TO something. The good news of the gospel is not simply that you get your sins forgiven, but you get your sins forgiven so that you get God, the Treasure of the Universe, the One for whom we were created, the only One who can bring satisfaction, delight, pleasure, and joy, in infinite measure, forever and ever and ever. We are saved TO God.

We are saved BY God through one and only one thing—the substitute death of His Son Jesus Christ at the cross as a payment for our sins.

So what is the gospel?

The good news is that God saves sinners. God, by the substitute death of His own Son Jesus Christ, takes the sin of everyone who would ever believe in Him and places it on His Son and punishes it to the fullest so that the guilty go free, and we get to be with God forever. That's the gospel.

The gospel in a minute:

The good news is that the one and only God, who is holy, made us in His image to know Him. But we sinned and cut ourselves off from Him. In His great love, God became a man in Jesus, lived a perfect life, and died on the cross, thus fulfilling the law Himself and taking on Himself the punishment for the sins of all those who would ever turn and trust in Him. He rose again from the dead, showing that God accepted Christ's sacrifice and that God's wrath against us has been exhausted. He now calls us to repent of our sins and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. If we repent of our sins and trust in Christ, we are born again into a new life, an eternal life with God.

Two Ways to Live

Gospel presentation online: <http://www.matthiasmedia.com.au/2wtl/>

Free app (iphone, ipod, ipad only): <http://www.matthiasmedia.com.au/2wtl/moreinfo/iosapp.html> (or go to the iTunes app store and search "2 ways to live")

A Gospel Primer for Christians: Learning to See the Glories of God's Love, Milton Vincent

Part I: Reasons to Rehearse the Gospel Daily

Parts II and III: Gospel Narratives (prose and poetic versions)
