

A NEW GOSPEL ?

Int.

1. Aim: To show that we do not need a new gospel for a new age.
2. Jer. 6:16 **"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."**
 - a. Many people do not want the old paths.
 - b. They want something new: Something a little different.
 - c. One church had a sign that said: "Something a little different coming soon."
 - d. People today aren't satisfied with that which is old, they want something new.
 - e. Acts 17:21 - the people at Athens were like this **"(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)"**
3. We live in a changing world, nothing remains the same for very long.
 - a. There have been more changes in our lifetime than in any other period in the history of the world -- changes in travel, communications, medical science, education, etc.
 - b. The world will continue to change with a more rapid pace.
4. But does this mean we need a new gospel for the new age?
 - a. Many modernists think so. They think the Bible, as it is, is not adapted to man as he is.
Want a sugar-coated Gospel - make it pleasing to men !
 - b. Does the ancient gospel meet the needs of modern man?
 - c. Do we need a new message for this new age and new era ?
5. Why would we need a new gospel?

Discussion

I. THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT HAVE NEVER CHANGED

A. Man's nature has never changed, and never will

1. Physically we still have the same needs of life's necessities
2. Emotionally we still have the same desires, impulses and passions
3. Socially we have the same needs and wants
4. Spiritually we have the same needs as when God made Adam.

B. Man's world has never changed, and never will

1. Some of the conditions have changed with new inventions - electricity, telephones, airplanes, computers
2. But the heart of man is still the same - he is tempted to sin.
3. The nature of temptation still comes the same way
 - a. 1 Jn. 2:15-17 "**Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**"
 - b. Matt. 4:1-11 - Temptation of Jesus - involved these three ways of temptation: Lust of flesh, Lust of Eyes and Pride of life.
 - c. Gen. 3 - Temptation of Adam and Eve
4. No man of modern times is tempted in more or less points -
 - a. Heb.4:15 "**For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**"
 - b. Jesus was tempted exactly as we all are tempted

C. **Man's problem is sin, it has never changed, and never will**

1. Sin is still here !
 - a. But we have the same old problem as before. Men will sin.
 - b. It is just like it always was - Rm. 6:23 **"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."**
2. There are no new sins to add to the catalog!
 - a. Rom. 1:29 ff
 - b. Gal. 5:19 ff
3. There are no old sins to delete. Man still practices them all.

D. **Man's adversary has never changed, and never will**

1. Satan still walks about
 - a. Job 1:6-8
 - b. 1 Pet. 5:8 **"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"**
2. He still uses schemes to deceive men
 - a. 2 Cor. 11:14-15 **"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."**
 - b. Mt. 7:15 **"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."**

E. **Man's destiny has not changed**

1. We have an appointment to leave this world - Heb. 9:27 **"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"**
2. We have an alternative for eternity
 - a. Jn. 5:28-29 **"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29. And shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."**
 - b. Mt. 25:46 **"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."**

F. Summary: Nothing has really changed....

1. Man's nature is still the same - he has the same needs
2. The world has not really changed - temptation is still here
3. Man's problem of Sin has not changed - there is nothing new in the way of sin
4. Our enemy is still the same - Satan, the Devil
5. Man's destiny is either heaven or hell

II. THE GOSPEL CANNOT BE REPLACED

- A. The gospel dispensation was planned from all eternity - Eph.3:10-11 **"To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11. According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:"**
- B. The gospel was designed to be universal in scope - Mk. 16:15-16
 1. Therefore, unlike the law of Moses which was for one race

2. It contained a universal appeal

a. Acts 10:34-35

b. Rev. 22:17 **"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."**

C. The gospel was declared to be the last revelation of God to man

1. Times past, but now,...once and for all

a. Heb. 1:1-2 **"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds:"**

b. Jude 3 **"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."** ASV "Once for All delivered"

2. The standard of judgment at the last - Jn. 12:48 **"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."**

D. A new Gospel will never come - Gal. 1:6-9 **"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another: but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."**

III. THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST STILL WORKS TODAY LIKE IT DID IN DAYS PAST

A. It can still save us from the love, practice and guilt of sin as it did at the beginning

1. The murderers of Christ - Acts 2:36-41
2. Saul of Tarsus - Acts 9,22,26

B. It can still save us in the same old way! 1 Cor. 15:1-3

1. Salvation is through faith in His blood

a. Rev. 1:5 **"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"**

b. 1 Jn. 1:7 **"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."**

2. We still apply it by obedience

a. Rm. 6:3-4 **"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."**

b. 1 Pet. 3:21

c. Acts 22:16 **"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."**

d. Gal. 3:27 **"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."**

C. It can still sustain us in life's darkest hours

1. Stephen Acts 7:60 **"And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."**
2. Paul - 2 Tim. 4:6-8 **"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."**

CONCLUSION

1. Do we need a new Gospel? NO. Amid all the changes we meet; Christ is still all we need.
2. Heb. 13:8 **"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."**
3. The message that "we need a new gospel for a new age" is from Satan and not from God.
4. There is only one gospel and it is **"...the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,"** according to Rev. 14:6
5. The Gospel is the same today for mankind who has the same needs. We live in a changing world, but man remains basically the same.
 - a. We sin - this separates us from God
 - b. The Gospel is the powerful means of salvation - Rom. 1:16
 - c. Obedience to this gospel is the way God has provided for us to be saved.
 - d. This is the best life here and has the promise of life hereafter.
6. We do not need to change the Gospel, we need to let the Gospel change us!

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