

The Gospel in Five Seconds

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The “Gospel in Five Seconds” does not address time, but things that are “second” in sequence, or in line, connected with the Gospel.
- B. The Gospel is the ‘good news’ that Christ died for our sins and was raised for our justification. **Romans 4:25** – “[Christ] who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.”
- C. The Gospel is the complete story of God’s power, love, and desire that all who hear it, believe and obey it so as to have have everlasting life.
1 Timothy 2:3-4 – “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
- D. According to the inspired writing of the apostle Pau in **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, the Gospel is founded in three things. Hear him: “Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,
 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you — unless you believed in vain.
 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Chris(1) died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
 and that He was (2) buried, and that He (3) rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”
1. His death
 2. His burial
 3. His resurrection
- E. It is this Gospel that we love . . . this Gospel that we cherish . . . It is this Gospel that we have obeyed . . . It is this Gospel that we proclaim and hold forth as our banner of truth!

THE GOSPEL IS CONTAINED IN A “SECOND LAW.”

- A. We live under the second law . . . Not the first law we read about in the Bible.
1. Read: **Hebrews 8:6-13**
 2. **Hebrews 10:9** – “Then He said, ‘Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.’ He takes away the first that He may establish the second.”
 3. **John 1:17** – “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”
- B. The first law was given and in force to the Israelites while God was preparing for the giving of the second law that would provide salvation.
1. **Matthew 5:17** – “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.”

- a. The law served and God-intended, and then that purpose was served it was no longer needed.
 - b. **ILLUSTRATION:** Father giving the bride away. (Words used) Once done he sits down because his purpose had been served and it is now up to the groom.
2. **Colossians 2:14** – “Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements [the Law] that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”
 3. **Galatians 3:19** – “What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed [Christ] should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.” How do we know for sure Christ is the Seed mentioned here?
Galatians 3:16 – “Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.”
 4. The Law of Christ is the standard for all humanity. They will be judged by it whether they live by it or not.

THE GOSPEL IS COMMANDS A “**SECOND BIRTH.**”

- A. Tit was nighttime in Jerusalem when Nicodemus met with Jesus. John 3:3-4 – “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’
Nicodemus said to Him, [**QUESTION**] ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’
Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, [**ANSWER**] unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.’”
- B. The second birth involves water baptism [immersion] for the remission of sins.
 1. **Acts 2:38** – “Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”
 2. Ananias told Saul of Tarsus in **Acts 22:16** – “And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”
 - a. Did Saul do that? The answer is found in **Act 9:18** – “. . . And he arose and was baptized.”
 - b. How do we know that Paul’s baptism was a burial/immersion in water.
Colossians 2:12 – “Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”
- C. In baptism Jesus applies Jesus’ cleansing blood to your soul.

THE GOSPEL PROMISES A “**SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.**”

- A. **Hebrews 9:28** – “So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.”
1. Christ provided for our sin problem when He was here the first time.
 2. In His second coming, Christ will provide the fulfillment of the salvation He has promised.
- B. Mankind has long speculated as to when Christ will return for His people and that will happen when He does. Their speculations have all been wrong.
- Matthew 24:36** – “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”
1. Christ’s return is not a puzzle or riddle to be solved but a day to be anticipated.
 - a. Read: **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**
 - b. Read: **2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**
 - c. **Acts 17:31** – “He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”
 2. Every person alive is either prepared or unprepared for the Lord’s return in the air . . . Which are you? Our responsibility is to prepare for His return. Jesus spoke plainly about this in **Matthew 24:44** – “Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

THE GOSPEL WARNS OF A “**SECOND DEATH.**”

- A. Please listen carefully: **TO BE BORN ONCE IS TO DIE TWICE . . . TO BE BORN TWICE IS TO DIE ONCE.** (Repeat)
1. **TO BE BORN ONCE IS TO DIE TWICE** means to have a physical birth but not a spiritual birth. There these people with have a physical death and a spiritual death.
 2. **TO BE BORN TWICE IS TO DIE ONCE** means one has had a physical birth and a spiritual birth (Became a Christian). Will undergo a physical death but not a spiritual death.
- B. The two deaths
1. **THE FIRST DEATH . . .** Physical death is the separation of the body and soul.
James 2:26 – “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”
 2. **THE SECOND DEATH . . .** Spiritual death is the separation of a person’s soul from God forever.
 - a. **2 Thessalonians 1:9** – “These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.”

b. **Revelation 20:14** – “Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.”

C. The second death has no power over those that have experienced the first resurrection.

1. **Revelation 20:4** – “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”
2. **Romans 6:3-5** – Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”

THE GOSPEL IS CONTAINS A “**SECOND LAW OF PARDON.**”

A. God is a God of second chances . . . God is a God of innumerable chances . . . But they all end at death.

1. To the rebellious Jonah, the word of the Lord came “. . . the second time” **Jonah 3:1**
2. The Lord gave weak and denying Peter a second chance. **Luke 22:32**
3. The Prodigal Son received the father’s mercy and forgiveness, even though he had willfully disobeyed. **Luke 15:11-32**
4. Peter told Simon the Sorcerer, “Your heart is not right in the sight of God” (**Acts 8:21**). Simon was further told to repent and pray to God for forgiveness. Remember Simon had already become a Christian.

CONCLUSION:

A. In this study we have seen “The Gospel in Five Seconds.”

1. The Gospel is contained in a “**SECOND LAW.**”
2. The Gospel commands a “**SECOND BIRTH.**”
3. The Gospel promises a “**SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.**”
4. The Gospel warns of a “**SECOND DEATH.**”
5. The Gospel contains a “**SECOND LAW OF PARDON.**”

B. Let me put all five of these in a summary statement . . . We live under a **SECOND LAW** and can experience the **SECOND BIRTH**; living in hopeful expectation of the **SECOND COMING OF CHRIST** while avoiding the **SECOND DEATH** and always knowing there is a **SECOND CHANCE** as long as we live.

C. **2 Corinthians 4:3-4** – “But even if our gospel is veiled [hidden], it is veiled [hidden] to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

D. **God’s Plan for Man’s Salvation**