

What Is The Gospel Of Christ?

by Bill Crews

The New Testament refers many times to *“the gospel,” “the gospel of Christ,”* and *“the gospel of God.”* What is this gospel?

The word **“gospel”** is from an Anglo-Saxon word which meant “good news.” It is used in the New Testament to translate the Greek word **EUAGGELION**, which meant “good news.” Throughout the New Testament it is used to refer to good news about the Lord’s kingdom and especially the good news about salvation from sin and eternal life being offered to all men on the basis of the crucifixion of Christ for our sins and His resurrection from the dead. Sometimes the accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are referred to as “the four gospels.” Each one is headed “According to (the name of the writer)” or “The Gospel According to (the name of the writer).” Each is an account of the good news about the ministry of Christ. Mark even starts his account with the words:

“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”

Jesus went about *“preaching the gospel of the kingdom”* (Matt. 4:23; 9:35) or “the gospel of God” (Mk. 1:14), and the good news was that the kingdom of heaven was at hand (Matt. 4:17) because the time was fulfilled (Mk. 1:14-15). During His ministry Jesus sent the apostles out to preach “the kingdom of God” (Lk. 9:2), and what they preached was that the kingdom was at hand (Matt. 10:7). All of this was *before*, yet designed to prepare them *for*, the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, which, with His ascension, exaltation and coronation would usher in the kingdom — which is exactly the good news that Peter proclaimed on the Pentecost following these events (Acts 2:22-36). In Matthew 24:14 Jesus declared that *“this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world.”* It would no longer be about a kingdom that was *“at hand,”* but about a kingdom that was a reality and into which the lost may come (Acts 8: 12 — *“when they believed Philip preaching good tidings concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and*

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