

Why Is The Gospel “God’s Power to Save”?

by Wayne Goff

Why is the gospel message God’s power to save sinful man? Because God made man in His own image (Genesis 1:26) and so man is a *free moral agent*. In other words, nobody can make a person do anything which they do not want to do. The gospel offers every person a choice.

Because man has a choice, *he also can make wrong choices*. The gospel is God’s power to save sinful man because sin is the result of his bad choices. We all make bad choices; we all sin; therefore, we all need to be saved. The gospel appeals to our sense of morality – what is right, what ought to be. Guilt is a terrible burden to carry around in one’s mind. The gospel removes guilt by forgiveness of sins, Acts 2:38.

Because man tries to avoid the consequences of his choices, *he likes to blame others*. So religiously, we **blame** the preacher for the content of the gospel, we **blame** the elders or the hierarchy for the condition of the church, and we **blame** members because we think they are hypocrites. Just the same, the gospel places the blame right where it belongs – on each one of us, Romans 5:12. We are all to blame for our lost condition.

Because the gospel extends the universal invitation to all men to accept spiritual healing offered by the love of God, men can find its invitation acceptable. “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” John 3:16. If the love of God in offering up Jesus, His only begotten Son, for our sins does not move you, then nothing would. Therefore the gospel is the most powerful motive to respond favorably to God.

Because men sometimes *procrastinate* in making the right decision, the gospel is the power of God to save. Read Matthew 20:1-16. It offers forgiveness of sins and salvation based on the grace, love and mercy of God, not on man’s performance, whether he does what he should soon or late in life. Naturally we do not encourage you to procrastinate – your life might end unexpectedly. But if you do procrastinate, and if you do change your mind, then the gospel will still be available. It has no expiration.

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