

Parson to Person

Romans 16 Part 3

“Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.” Romans 16:25–27 (NKJV)

The Gospel has been muddied, distorted, perverted, abused, falsified, demonized, and humanized. However, the true Gospel has also been preserved, recognized, embraced, believed, and has transformed men and women throughout the centuries—for the glory of God.

The true Gospel, as Paul mentioned here in the closing verses of Romans, is able to “*establish*” the believer for the climactic life promised in Jesus, by virtue of His once-for-all propitiatory sacrifice. At Calvary, Jesus secured for every believer, redemption, justification, sanctification, and glorification without any future condemnation or punitive judgment. Moreover, in Jesus, the true believer is promised eternal life in communion with God, freedom from the power and presence of sin, absolute liberty, spiritual, mental, and physical health,

immeasurable riches and wealth, with pleasure beyond imagination.

The Gospel promises total and climactic restoration of all forfeited by sin—to all who believe. However, there are standards by which man may receive these promises and limits to when they will be realized.

The Standards:

Salvation is provided through Jesus Christ alone! No man may receive it any other way. Salvation is not granted by personal accomplishment(s), sorrow for sin, any religious exercise or system, any so-called “god(s),” religious figures, worldviews, methods, or manipulations. Salvation is all of God, for God, and through God, as the result of the finished work of His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord.

Salvation is provided to all by faith alone—through the grace of God alone, by the will of God (Ephesians 1:3–12). It is not granted by the persuasion, coercion, or compulsion of man, by generational inheritance, or by human will or ambition (John 1:13). It is not granted by a cessation of sin(s) (Romans 3:23 and 7:14–25), by restorative actions (Romans 4:4), nor by any promise of future obedience or act of “surrender” (Ephesians 2:8–9).

Salvation is only forfeited through unbelief in the Gospel, and thus, men (upon revelation of the truth) are

commanded to repent (of unbelief) and believe the gospel (1 John 3:23).

Repentance of sins, restorative actions, a life of intended obedience, or degrees of surrender are only made possible through regeneration, but while remaining the fruit of salvation, they are not the means of salvation, nor are they a requirement for the maintenance or continuation of the salvation provided.

Timing:

Total surrender and flawless obedience will not be realized until we see the Lord face to face—in glory. Freedom from the power and presence of sin, absolute liberty, spiritual, mental, and physical health, immeasurable riches and wealth, with pleasure beyond imagination are anticipated in the eternal state—but not before. Those who teach that sinless perfection, unlimited freedom, absolute liberty, health, wealth, etc., are promised in the here and now are mistaken. The teaching of these errors brings false motivation for serving the Lord—and discouragement to those who don't realize their fleshly goals.

Rejected Gospel Narratives: (Non-Biblical/False) (A Sampling)

- 1) The Performance Gospel: Front-Loading and Back-Loading
“Do what you can—and the Lord will save you.”
“Do what you can—and the Lord will keep you.”
- 2) The Permissive/Licentious Gospel: Sin is Acceptable
- 3) The Pluralistic Gospel: All Roads Lead to God
- 4) The Unitarian Gospel: Non-Trinitarian, Denial of Original Sin, Denial of Eternal Judgment
- 5) The Universal Gospel—Universalism: All People Will Be Saved
- 6) The Prosperity Gospel: Earthly/Temporal Health and Wealth, Word of Faith
- 7) The Deification Gospel: Man Becomes God/A Deity
- 8) The Pantheistic Gospel: All is God
- 9) The Panentheistic Gospel: All is in God/God is in All
- 10) The Self-Help/Formula Driven Gospel: Positive Mental Attitude, Sobriety is Salvation
- 11) The Self-Esteem Gospel: You Are Awesome—Therefore God Saves You
- 12) The Social Gospel: Societal Healing is Salvation—Socialism, Marxism
- 13) The Progressive Gospel: (Woke/Gender Neutralization/LGBTQ+/Egalitarianism)
- 14) The Reformed Gospel: Replacement Theology, Rejection Theology (Calvinism)

Accepted Gospel Narratives: (Biblical/True)

- 1) The Gospel of the Kingdom: The Restoration of Israel and Earthly Reign of Jesus
- 2) The Gospel of Grace/The Everlasting Gospel: Salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, as declared in the Scriptures alone, for the glory of God alone.

The Mystery: The Church in the Church Age

The *“mystery kept secret since the world began”* is the salvation of all men (both Jew and Gentile) by faith alone, in Christ alone, through the grace of God alone, as revealed in the prophetic Scriptures, for the glory of God alone.

The Gospel—for the Glory of God

This is the Gospel: God, in spite of us, chose to save us, from the power and presence of sin, without our help, through the vicarious sufferings of Jesus’ death, burial, and physical resurrection, through which He promises us eternal life, without fear of future consequences, in order to manifest His glory, mercy and grace, and whereby He shares with us an eternal inheritance of His person, health and wealth beyond our present comprehension, adoption into His eternal family, wherein total justification,

sanctification, and glorification will be enjoyed by all who trust in Him.

I love you all,
Pastor Paul