

# The Gospel

*God's Purpose in the earth*

- Before the world began, He was thinking about the \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 1:3-5** *"<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: <sup>4</sup>According as he hath chosen us in him (in Christ) before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: <sup>5</sup>Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will..."*

**2 Timothy 1:8-10** *"...be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; <sup>9</sup>Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began..."*

- In Genesis 3, man sinned. In Genesis 4, we see the first sacrifice for sins accepted – a spotless \_\_\_\_\_ (a picture of Christ, sacrificed for sins)

**Genesis 4:3-6** *"<sup>3</sup>...Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. <sup>4</sup>And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: <sup>5</sup>But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect..."*

- (8 chapters later) God preached the Gospel to \_\_\_\_\_, and the first missionary family was called.

**Genesis 12:1** *"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: <sup>2</sup>And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: <sup>3</sup>And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."*

**Galatians 3:8-9** *<sup>8</sup>And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before **the gospel** unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. <sup>9</sup>So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.*

- Abraham's family went into \_\_\_\_\_ (as prophesied in Genesis 15), and became a great nation (Acts 7).

- In Exodus 9, God comes down to call the Hebrews out of Egypt, and into the Promised land - but not without reminding Pharaoh and His people of His purpose for redeeming them the way He did.

**Exodus 9:15-16** *And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; **and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.***

- The \_\_\_\_\_ – a picture of Christ (and the Gospel)

**Exodus 12:13** *"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses...and when I see the blood, I will pass over you..."*

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**\*Matthew 26** – Christ explained what the Passover was all about – his body broken, and His blood shed, for the salvation of the lost (the Gospel)

- God led them to the wilderness, where He told \_\_\_\_\_ their purpose

**Exodus 19:5-6** *"...Ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people... <sup>6</sup>And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation."*

- Then, He gave them the \_\_\_\_\_ (Exodus 23-23, etc.) to show man His need for salvation (the Gospel).

**Galatians 3:24** *Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

- a) It showed us what sin is
- b) It showed us our need for a Saviour
- c) The Law foreshadowed many aspects of Christ

- God finally led them into the Promised Land, where they were to live and thrive, and "be a blessing" to the nations of the earth. But they forgot their purpose.

- God sent the Judges, and Preachers, and Psalmists to remind them of their purpose:

**Psalms 96:3** *<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.*

**Psalms 72:18-19** *<sup>18</sup>Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. <sup>19</sup>And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory;*

*Psalm 67:1-2* God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. <sup>2</sup>That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations...and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him."

*Isaiah 11:9-10* <sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

- But they wouldn't hearken do it. They weren't that holy nation – so God finally sent His \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

*Matthew 15:24* "But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel"

*Matthew 10:5-6* ...Go not in to the way of the Gentiles...But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand..."

- But they would not listen – and \_\_\_\_\_ Christ.
- Finally, God said, "that's fine – if you won't do it, I will raise up a generation of Gentiles, and they will take the light of **the Gospel** to the end of the earth."
- In the Book of Acts, God tells Peter to take **the Gospel** to the Gentiles.

*1 Peter 2:9* <sup>9</sup>But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

- In the latter part of the book of Acts God calls Paul to take the Gospel to the Gentiles. He admonishes us to preach the Gospel.

*Rom. 10:15* How beautiful are **the** feet of **them** that preach **the gospel** of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

*Ephesians 6:15* And your feet shod with **the** preparation of **the gospel** of peace;

*Phil 1:12* But I would ye should understand, brethren, that **the** things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto **the** furtherance of **the gospel**;

- The rest of Paul's ministry was about getting the Gospel to the Gentiles
- In Acts 8:1 – God allowed persecution to the church members would "go everywhere, preaching the Gospel"

- 95 times in the NT Peter, Paul, The Lord, and others, talk about the Gospel.
- And as believers, we've been given the Bible – with the admonishment to "preach the Gospel". It's God's passion, and should be ours too.

**Everything before the cross points to the cross. And everything after is made possible by the cross.**

### **Practically, what should I do?**

#### **1. I can \_\_\_\_\_ the book.**

\*And become passionate about what Christ is passionate about

#### **2. I can get \_\_\_\_\_ practically.**

\*Soul winning  
\*Giving

#### **3. I can hold the \_\_\_\_\_ for those on the front lines.**