

The Basics: Salvation is Free. Overcoming is Required.

Sometimes we have to do like Vince Lombardi and get back to the basics.

He told his players at the start of summer camp in July 1961, "Gentlemen, this is a football."

Text: [Luk 19:5-10 NLT] 5 When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today." 6 Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. 7 But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. 8 Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" 9 Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

[Rom 1:16 KJV] 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Introduction

Salvation is Free

Don't Wait Too Late

Three Things that have not Changed

The Promise of the Holy Spirit is for You

Salvation is Free to Us. The Process Includes Us and God.

The Gospel Message

Ever Since the Message was given, the message has not and will never be revised or replaced.

Mercy, Grace and Faith are part of the Salvation Process

Mercy – When God out of His Loving Kindness withholds punishment we rightly deserve. God takes pity on us because of his Love for Us so we don't get what we deserve.

[Rom 9:15-16 KJV] 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

[Rom 12:1 KJV] 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, **by the mercies of God**, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service.

Grace – God's Unmerited favor freely given, not earned. Receiving what we did not earn.

[Eph 2:8-9 KJV] 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

[Jhn 1:17 KJV] 17 For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

[1Co 2:14 KJV] 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned.

[Jhn 6:44 NLT] 44 For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up.

[Jhn 6:65 KJV] 65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Faith

[Heb 11:1 NLT] 1 Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

[Heb 11:6 KJV] 6 But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

[Jhn 6:35 KJV] 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

[Rom 12:3 KJV] 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think [of himself] more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Three Things that have not Changed

Mankind, Methods, and Message have not changed.

Mankind: Humanity has been wicked since the fall of man in the garden.

[Gen 4:8 KJV] 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

[Gen 6:5 KJV] 5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every imagination of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually.

Methods: The methods for presenting the Gospel has not changed.

We are to go and teach.

[1Co 1:21 KJV] 21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

[Mat 28:19 KJV] 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Message: If the message from the church is new, it is not true.

Part 1: Jesus, the one and only Son of the Living God, Came from Heaven and became a man.

[Jhn 3:13 KJV] 13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, [even] the Son of man which is in heaven.

[Jhn 6:38 KJV] 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

Part 2: We must believe the Message. Jesus Died for us:

Jesus came from heaven and died for our sins so we can be forgiven and become a citizen of the kingdom of God

All of us have sinned and All of us deserve eternal punishment.

Jesus rose from the dead on the third day

Jesus died on the Cross for our sins but he never sinned

[2Co 5:21 KJV] 21 For he hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

[Gal 1:4 KJV] 4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

[1Co 15:3 KJV] 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

Three days after, The Father raised Jesus from the dead

[1Co 15:4-8 KJV] 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

There is no new or updated Gospel Message.

[Heb 13:8-9 NLT] 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. 9 So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your strength comes from God's grace, not from rules about food, which don't help those who follow them.

The Promise of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is Given to You

[Act 2:1-4 KJV] 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

What are we waiting for? The Promise of the Holy Spirit is for all of us.

We don't have to wait. The Holy Ghost is here.

Receive the promise, don't analyze how and why.

[Mat 21:22 KJV] 22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

[Jhn 7:38-39 KJV] 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet [given]; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

[Act 2:38 KJV] 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.