

WHAT IS THE REAL GOSPEL?

**(Teaching Notes And Other Material, Which Clearly Distinguish
Between The ONE True Gospel Of The Lord Jesus Christ And The Many
False Gospels Abounding In Today's Church)**

BY

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2 Corinthians 5.19a

"God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself."

Thought Starter

Most Churches are following a Gospel, but which Gospel are they following?

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General Introduction

Judges 3:7 *“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their God, and served Baal and the (sacred) groves.”*

The enclosed Teaching Summaries were designed to remind a forgetful Church about the real Gospel of Jesus Christ. They attempt to: -

- 1) Show the greatness of Christ by outlining the original Gospel message as revealed in Scripture.
- 2) Give a lucid witness to the truth that, *“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,”* (1Timothy 1.15)
- 3) Enable Christians to differentiate between the one true Gospel and any counterfeit version.
- 4) Provide convenient, easy-to-use notes for overworked preachers, ministers and any other church workers.
- 5) Challenge Christians to regain a fresh appreciation of the true Gospel message in an age of many distractions.
- 6) Remind those distressed by the deception within the Church, that Christianity is indeed ‘good’ and not ‘bad’ news!

Their main task is to answer the question *‘What is the REAL Gospel?’* In an age where many counterfeit Gospels have found popular acceptance in many Churches it’s a question, which is dangerous to ignore. Moreover, how one answers that question can determine ones eternal destiny.

However, it has not been the intention of these Summaries to explore specific topics such as baptism, Christian living or spiritual growth. Rather, their emphasis has been upon a God-given faith, which is utterly central to saving people from their sins. They also show how the true Gospel differs from any counterfeit versions abounding in today’s backslidden Church. The Summaries were devised with the conviction that there is more need now than ever before to gain a clear and appreciative understanding of what the Gospel really is. (My own personal conviction about this has grown steadily over the last ten years since I first began drafting this material.) Great care has been taken to define all key terms through the use of definition lists and footnotes. In order not to deter those with little or no theological training, specialised jargon has been omitted unless the subject matter has definitely required it.

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Since these Gospel Teaching Summaries were first drafted during the 1990s the spiritual deterioration within the Church has greatly accelerated. Many of the points originally made in each Summary are truer today than when they were first written, (particularly in Gospel Teaching Summaries 6-8). In addition, the writer is aware that both the World and the Church in the Twenty-First Century could be facing a terrible (and perhaps highly seductive) onslaught by the powers of darkness. In light of this grim possibility, he would urge every reader to ensure they are firmly rooted in the only true Gospel capable of offering them new life.

In these summaries, Christ’s perfect nature is often contrasted with the imperfect nature of sinful human beings. This is done to emphasise the greatness of Christ’s work. Such a distinction forms the subject of the following meditation. Entitled *‘Contrasts’* it was first written whilst travelling by train on Saturday, 16th August 2003, following a private retreat at a Religious House. It highlights the contrast between God’s complete perfection and sinful human nature which is strongly antagonistic to that perfection.

*You are God,
 You are perfect,
 You are unlimited,
 You are strong,
 You are holy,
 You are compassionate,
 You are selfless,
 You are wise,
 You are humble,
 You are Spirit,*

*I am man,
 I am imperfect,
 I am limited,
 I am weak,
 I am sinful,
 I am condemning,
 I am selfish,
 I am proud,
 am Flesh;*

*Nothing can bridge the hostile gulf between us
 Except
 Your only begotten son
 The Lord Jesus Christ,
 The perfect God-man
 Whose bloody,
 Skin-torn death
 Offered a complete
 Sacrifice
 For
 My sin*

The Director of Yes-Now Publications, June 2004

Please note: -

- 1) Gospel Teaching Summaries 1-8 were first produced in 1993 and reprinted with slight modifications in August 2002.
- 2) Appendices 5 and 6 of Gospel Teaching Summary 8 and Gospel Teaching Summaries 9-11 were first produced during the 1996-7 period and reprinted with slight modifications in October 2002.
- 3) Gospel Teaching Summary 12 was based upon lecture notes prepared for a theological workshop and given by the writer on Saturday, April 9th 1988. They were substantially modified from October to December 2002.

The varied dating of these Gospel Teaching Summaries explains any minor differences in format style and letter size.