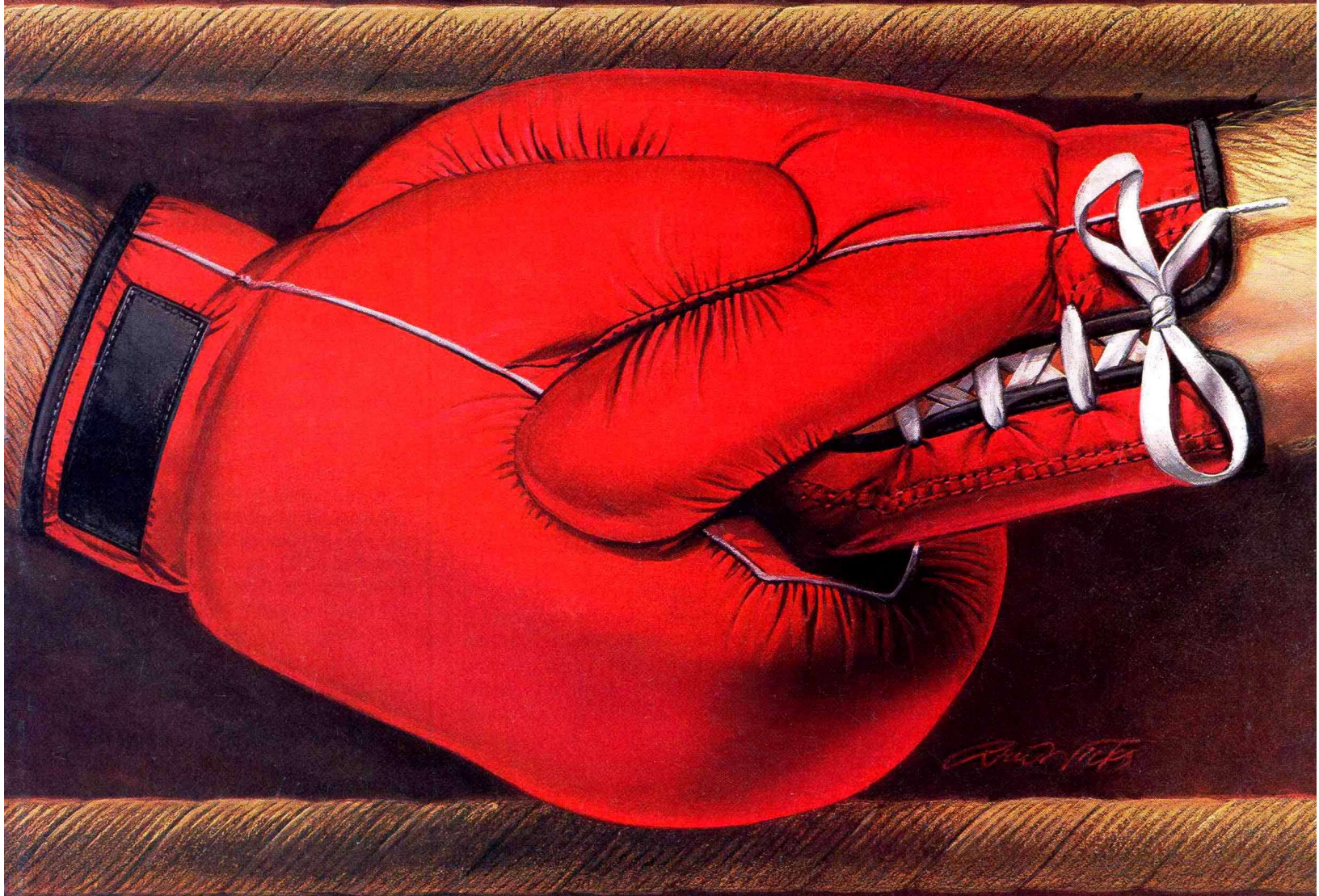


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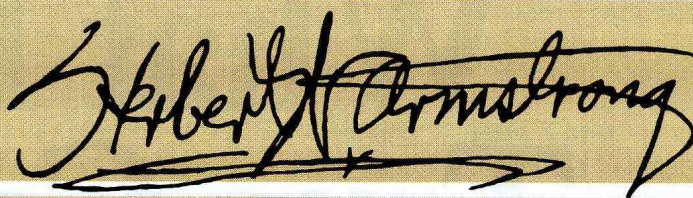
The Good News

OF THE WORLD TOMORROW



HOW TO HANDLE CONFLICT

What Is the True Gospel?
Are You Overlooking Something?



DO YOU HAVE problems, difficulties, troubles?

Some seem to think God's people meet no trials or tests but are blessed with continual smooth sailing.

In my personal responsibilities in the conduct of this great, important, always growing Work of God, I have not found it a smooth, easygoing road with no difficulties. I have encountered repeated trials, problems, tests.

There have been critical crises. There has been real persecution. There has been deliberate, vicious, lying, unprincipled misrepresentation. One enemy printed and circulated a list of 20 things he claimed I believed and taught — and I didn't believe or teach a single one of them.

In this Work of the living God there has been deceitful, malicious, ruthless opposition. Obstacles have had to be hurdled frequently. Problems constantly require solution. It has required unwavering faith, perseverance, determination, constant prayer for guidance and reliance on God for both direction and protection.

Does the Bible teach smooth sailing for true Christians whom God is using? Did the men of God, whose lives pleased God, as recorded in the Bible, have only an easy time of it, or were they constantly meeting trials, tests, troubles of every sort — being continually forced to cry out to God for deliverance?

And WHY?

Listen to God's own instruction:

"MANY are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all" (Ps. 34:19).

"For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. . . . They are not in trouble as other men . . . Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world;

they increase in riches. . . . For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning" (Ps. 73:3-14).

"We must through *much tribulation* enter into the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22).

"All that will live godly in Christ Jesus *shall suffer persecution*" (II Tim. 3:12).

"If we SUFFER, we shall also reign with him" (II Tim. 2:12).

"For as the *sufferings* of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether *we be afflicted*, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the *enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer*" (II Cor. 1:5-6).

But is God unfair? Does He hate Christians and punish them, while He loves the ungodly and prospers them? *Not at all!*

There is great purpose in the trials, tests, tribulations and sufferings the Christian must endure. For these are the very means of strengthening CHARACTER — of developing fine, upstanding, strong Christians.

God does not *bless the ungodly* with wealth — they acquire it usually in one or both of two ways: by setting their hearts and minds on acquiring it and following through this purpose to the exclusion of all else, until, without realizing it, the pursuit of MONEY becomes the pursuit of their god, destroying the soul; or by dishonest means.

But God does bless those who seek Him *first* — not always with great money and wealth, but always, in the end, with material prosperity they would not have had otherwise. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;" admonished Jesus, "and all these things [material prosperity in shelter, food, clothing] shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). That is Jesus' PROMISE.

God loves to see His servants prospering. He says so through David and John. He corrects and chastens every son whom He loves. He allows His true children to suffer much — to fall into troubles, difficulties, to face trials and tests for their strengthening.

But if we *endure* these tests, hard though they may be — and if we seek *first* our God, His righteousness and His Kingdom, putting material interests second in our hearts, then in His own due time God will always prosper His children even in a material way!

"But *we glory in tribulations* also: knowing that *tribulation worketh patience*" (Rom. 5:3). Therefore it produces GOOD in and for us.

"My brethren, *count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations* [alternate translation: "*trials*"; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (Jas. 1:2-3).

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning *the fiery trial which is to try you*, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice" (I Pet. 4:12-13).

If you had to choose between receiving gold valued at \$50,000 or a great trouble to test your faith, which would you choose? The gold? You'd make the wrong choice if you did.

God says, through Peter: ". . . the trial of your faith, *being much more precious* than of gold that perisheth, though it [the trial of faith] be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (I Pet. 1:7).

Moses suffered affliction in order to lead the children of God, choosing this rather than the riches of the king's palace and the pleasures of sin for a season.

David suffered constant criticism and false accusation, his enemies continually tried to unseat him and his

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What Is the True Gospel?

What is the true Gospel that Jesus preached? Did Paul preach a different gospel to the gentiles? Here, at last, is made plain the truth about the Kingdom of God.

By Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY SHOULD there be such perplexity — such *confusion* — in every phase of life today?

It should be the function of religion to point the way. Yet here, too, we find only confusion of tongues — hundreds of religious denominations and sects, in a Babylon of disagreement.

Even in the professing Christian religion of the Western world, we find different sects and denominations preaching a variety of different GOSPELS!

Some designate their gospel as “The Gospel of Jesus Christ.” Others call *their* gospel “The Gospel of Salvation.” Still others profess “The Gospel of Grace,” some “The Gospel of the Kingdom.”

WHY HAVE THEY LOST THE ONLY TRUE GOSPEL THAT GOD SENT BY JESUS CHRIST? WHY?

How many Gospels are there?

Does it make any difference which gospel we believe?

Listen to the answer of the eternal God, as inspired in Paul’s letter to the Galatians — the first chapter, the eighth verse:

“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any *other* gospel unto you than that which we have

preached unto you, *let him be accursed.*”

And it is made a *double* curse! For the next verse says, “So say I now *again*, If any man preach *any other* gospel unto you than that ye have received, *let him be accursed.*”

WHY, then, has the world lost sight of *that* Gospel? WHY do people believe *different* gospels today?

This is an astounding, incredible situation! It ought to shake you out of passive indifference. YOUR eternity is at stake! This is not an inconsequential, unimportant matter!

Jesus Christ said it is necessary to BELIEVE THE GOSPEL to be saved! Yet the *many* — the hundreds of millions — today do not know what *that Gospel is!*

Again, His parting commission to His apostles, being sent out as His ministers to build His Church, was this: “Go ye into all the world, and preach *the gospel*” (Mark 16:15). They were to preach THE GOSPEL.

Jesus then said, “He that BELIEVETH and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (verse 16).

Notice! Jesus said, “He that BELIEVETH.” Believeth *what?* Why, BELIEVETH that which they PREACHED, of course — THE GOSPEL! Not a gospel. Not *any* gospel. THE Gospel!

On the authority of Jesus Christ, it is necessary to believe THAT PRE-

CISE, IDENTICAL GOSPEL in order to be saved! And to BELIEVE the true Gospel, we must first come to KNOW what it is!

Now with whom, and from where, and to whom, did the true Gospel originate? With Christ? No, not with Christ!

The message sent from heaven

God the Father had promised to send a messenger into this world from heaven, bearing a message from HIM — God the FATHER!

God had promised that in Malachi 3:1:

“Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me [and *that* messenger, as explained in Mark 1:2, was John the Baptist, preparing the way before Jesus Christ]: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, EVEN THE MESSENGER OF THE COVENANT, whom ye delight in.”

The very first sermon by which God had the Gospel preached to gentiles, when Peter was sent to the house of the gentile Cornelius, recorded in the 10th chapter of the book of Acts, gives us very explicit directions for locating the one and only TRUE GOSPEL.

Open your own Bible! I want you to *read* this with your own eyes! This is what the inspired Peter said, as recorded in Acts 10:36-37: “The word which GOD *sent* unto the chil-

dren of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached."

Which Gospel did Jesus preach?

Notice carefully these points:

1) With whom did this message — this Gospel — originate? Peter said: "The word which GOD sent."

2) To WHOM did God send it? Peter said "unto the children of Israel." Although now, 10 years later, this same Gospel was being opened up to gentiles of ALL nations, originally it was sent to the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and it was sent by GOD the FATHER. It did not originate with Jesus Christ, nor with Peter, nor with the apostle Paul. It was sent by God the Father of Jesus Christ!

3) BY WHOM was it sent? Who was the divine Messenger who brought and preached the message? Peter said "by Jesus Christ." Jesus Christ was the divine MESSENGER. Malachi called Him the Messenger of the COVENANT.

That message, then, is the NEW covenant message, for Moses was the mediator of the old covenant, and Jesus Christ of the NEW, as affirmed by many scriptures. This message, then, is the NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL.

Now, 4) WHERE was it first preached? To what geographical location shall we look for its beginning? Peter said it "began from Galilee." Yes, GALILEE, then, is the place where it was first preached. Not Jerusalem! Galilee!

When did Jesus begin to preach this particular Gospel in Galilee? Peter said "after the baptism which John preached." The true GOSPEL of the NEW covenant, then, did not begin with John the Baptist. It began after John had completed his baptismal ministry.

Now these very definite directions lead us directly to the first chapter of Mark. The first verse tells us this is the record of the BEGINNING of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Then it relates the baptizing ministry of John, preaching, NOT the Gospel, but "the baptism of repentance," which prepares the way for the GOSPEL that the living God sent by Jesus Christ (verse 4).

And then we come to verses 14 and 15: "Now after that John was put in prison" — there is the exact TIME for the beginning of the preaching of the TRUE GOSPEL — "JESUS" — there is the divine Messenger BY whom God sent it — "came into GALILEE" — THE PRECISE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

So we now have the TIME, the Israelites residing there TO WHOM God sent the message, the PLACE and the MESSENGER — so whatever we find Jesus preaching here is THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE GOSPEL.

And what do we read? "Jesus came into Galilee, PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the KINGDOM OF GOD is at hand: REPENT YE, and BELIEVE THE GOSPEL."

Notice, Jesus said, "Believe THE GOSPEL!"

WHAT Gospel? The one He was proclaiming — "the gospel of the kingdom of God."

But, one may ask, don't we need to believe on Jesus? Of course. Other scriptures teach that. But at this particular time Jesus said we must believe Him — believe what He said — believe the Gospel of the Kingdom of God!

Some believed on Jesus, but did not believe Jesus — did not believe what He SAID (John 7:31, 8:30-31, 46).

What about the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

But if the one and only TRUE Gospel is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, what about the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Is that a false gospel?

Not at all. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Gospel He brought as God's Messenger — the Gospel He proclaimed is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is NOT man's gospel ABOUT the PERSON of Christ.

It is CHRIST'S Gospel — the Gospel Jesus PREACHED — the Gospel GOD SENT by Him, and therefore it is also called, in Scripture, the Gospel of God. The Gospel of God is God's Gospel — His message — His good news that He sent by Jesus.

Also the Gospel of Jesus Christ is Christ's Gospel — the Gospel Christ

brought from God — the Gospel He proclaimed.

We hear a great deal today of the gospel of MEN about the PERSON of Jesus Christ — confining the message solely to the things ABOUT Jesus. As a result, millions believe on Christ who do not BELIEVE CHRIST! But Jesus' Gospel is HIS MESSAGE!

And yet it was not only His, but His FATHER's who sent Him, as He Himself said. In John 12:49-50, Jesus said:

"I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, HE gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that HIS commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak."

Yes, the Father SENT Jesus bearing a message, which is the good news of THE KINGDOM OF GOD. Jesus is God's Spokesman — the WORD that was made flesh and lived, and taught, on this earth! In John 14:24 Jesus said, "The word which ye hear is NOT MINE, but the Father's which sent me."

And, descriptive of the religion of the Old Testament and the GOSPEL of the NEW, it is written in Luke 16:16, "The law and the prophets were UNTIL JOHN: since that time the KINGDOM OF GOD is preached."

What is the Kingdom of God?

And yet there are some in this modern day of religious confusion who believe the Gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD is not for this age — this New Testament time of grace. They reject and therefore do not BELIEVE the true Gospel as Jesus commanded and thereby reject the very conditions to SALVATION, saying the Gospel of the KINGDOM is a gospel for some future age yet to come.

But as the apostle Paul said to the Thessalonians, I would not have you to be IGNORANT of the very Gospel that alone can bring us eternal life!

There was a definite TIME for the beginning of the Gospel — since John. The law and the prophets were UNTIL John. Since John's special preparatory ministry, the KINGDOM OF GOD is preached.

There was a definite TIME for this true New Testament Gospel to begin. And after John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, saying, "The

TIME is fulfilled," and preaching the Gospel.

And so now, WHAT is that Gospel?

The English word *gospel* comes from the word *godspel*, and means GOOD NEWS. Daily, we read the NEWS of world happenings — mostly BAD news! We live in a troubled, chaotic world. And the very BEST news you can hear in this day, or any other, is the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD.

But what *is* a KINGDOM? Primarily, it is a GOVERNMENT — a NATION and the GOVERNMENT that rules it. And especially in this biblical sense, there is the DUAL sense of the NATION, including all its subjects or citizens, and the GOVERNMENT by which it is ruled. Again — in BIBLE usage, a kingdom is often a family from a single parent grown into a NATION.

Four things are necessary to constitute a KINGDOM: 1) the TERRITORY, with its specific location and definite boundary lines, with 2) a KING or supreme ruler or governing agent, ruling over 3) SUBJECTS or citizens *within* that territorial jurisdiction, with 4) LAWS and a form of GOVERNMENT.

If we leave out any one of these vital requisites, we do not have, and cannot BELIEVE, the true GOSPEL for this time.

We must know whether the Kingdom of God is here NOW, or coming later; whether its territory is THE EARTH, or up in heaven; whether it is a literal kingdom of human mortals, or a kingdom of immortals; whether it is literal or figurative, real or unreal.

And on many of these things, a great many people are ALL MIXED UP!

But now what about the Gospel of GRACE — the Gospel of SALVATION?

Born into the Kingdom

Notice, when Nicodemus came to Jesus secretly, as recorded in John the third chapter, Jesus said to him: "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be BORN AGAIN, he cannot see the KINGDOM OF GOD" (verse 3).

Jesus was proclaiming the KINGDOM OF GOD — explaining a most important phase of it.

As Paul wrote to the church at

Corinth in I Corinthians 15:50, flesh and blood — that is, a mortal human — cannot enter INTO the Kingdom of God.

The Church, then, cannot be the Kingdom of God, for it is composed of flesh-and-blood mortals. It is *not*, either, an ethereal something "set up in the hearts of men."

Jesus went on to show Nicodemus that we who are born of the flesh ARE flesh — just mortal flesh and blood. We were BORN that way — HUMAN — MORTAL.

But it is possible for us to be BORN AGAIN — next time, *not* as a mortal flesh-and-blood baby, but born of the SPIRIT. Then we shall *be* spirit — composed of spirit!

Now in the fourth chapter of John we read that GOD is a SPIRIT (verse 24). The Kingdom of GOD is composed of those BORN OF GOD. And as I have explained previously, GOD is not a single person, but the Hebrew word for God, *Elohim*, portrays God as a FAMILY of persons — a *single* family, or *kingdom*, but composed of MORE than one person.

We have the mineral *kingdom*, the plant *kingdom*, the animal *kingdom*. The Bible reveals an angel *kingdom*, created by God and composed of spirit, not matter.

And then, high above all, is the very CREATING Kingdom — the GOD Kingdom, or, in other words, THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

GOD is REPRODUCING HIMSELF! God created man in GOD'S IMAGE, so that man may become impregnated, BEGOTTEN and, by a resurrection, be BORN as an immortal, SPIRIT-COMPOSED person in the KINGDOM OF GOD.

The apostle Paul made very plain to the Corinthians that while mortal flesh and blood cannot inherit, or enter into, the Kingdom of God, that through the resurrection of those BEGOTTEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD during this mortal life, this MORTAL then *puts on* IMMORTALITY, and we, like the very God Himself, become IMMORTAL, INCORRUPTIBLE, actually, literally, BORN of God's Spirit INTO the very GOD FAMILY.

Conditions of entering

Now, HOW may we enter into that glorious KINGDOM?

Jesus came preaching the Gospel

of the Kingdom of God, and saying "REPENT" and "BELIEVE THE GOSPEL."

Just TWO things we do — REPENT and BELIEVE. We must BELIEVE the Gospel, and that means also believing on JESUS CHRIST, the KING of the Kingdom of God, and coming KING of kings over all the families of the earth. It means believing in Him as personal SAVIOR, as High Priest now and as coming KING.

But to repent is to completely CHANGE THE MIND in respect to SIN, and "sin is the transgression of the LAW" (I John 3:4) — the law of GOD by which God RULES the Kingdom.

It means a total, complete CHANGE OF MIND AND OF LIFE. It means we REPENT of transgressing the rule, the will, the laws, of GOD. What did Jesus say to the young man who asked Him HOW to inherit eternal life? He said, "If thou wilt enter into life, KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS" (Matt. 19:17).

He went on to show that He referred to the TEN COMMANDMENTS, God's great SPIRITUAL LAW, summing up, in principle, the WHOLE duty of righteous living.

It is a WAY OF LIFE, and a way *contrary* to human nature and to the ways and customs of this world! It is the basic spiritual law and way of life of the KINGDOM OF GOD — the WAY to peace of mind, to world peace, to happiness, prosperity and JOY — the WAY to eternal life.

Kingdom of God to be preached TODAY

Yes, JESUS proclaimed and taught the GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. But did He command His ministers, in BUILDING HIS CHURCH, to preach this same Gospel? Quickly let us notice the Scriptures.

Luke 9:1-2: "Then he called his twelve disciples together . . . And he sent them to PREACH THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

Luke 10:1-2, 9: "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

"Therefore said he unto them . . . heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The KINGDOM OF GOD is come nigh unto you."

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True Gospel?

(Continued from page 4)

In Jesus' prayer, so commonly called the "Lord's Prayer," He prayed, "THY KINGDOM COME" — then it wasn't here yet, and it isn't here yet, today — but He taught us to pray for it to COME, for His KINGDOM and that ALONE shall bring PEACE and HAPPINESS to this sin-sick, war-weary earth! "Thy kingdom COME. THY WILL BE DONE *in earth*, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). The FATHER'S WILL.

What Gospel did the early evangelists preach, in first sending out the FAITH ONCE DELIVERED? How did the early Church carry out the commission?

Notice PHILIP preaching at Samaria! Acts 8:12: "But when they BELIEVED Philip preaching the things concerning THE KINGDOM OF GOD, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Philip preached the things concerning THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Paul? Acts 20:25, 21: "I have gone preaching THE KINGDOM OF GOD . . . Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and FAITH toward our Lord Jesus Christ."

And notice the Gospel Paul preached to GENTILES, *after* he had turned completely away from the Jews.

Acts 28:30-31: "And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, Preaching THE KINGDOM OF GOD, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ."

And, lastly, WHAT GOSPEL did Jesus say should be preached TODAY?

Matthew 24:14, speaking of the PRESENT: "And this GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM shall be preached in ALL THE WORLD *for a witness*" — *for a WITNESS* — "unto ALL NATIONS; and then shall the END come" — the end of this AGE.

That is the true Gospel proclaimed in the *Good News of the World Tomorrow* — proclaimed on the *World Tomorrow* broadcast on the air worldwide — "IN ALL THE WORLD." □

Few Are Chosen

(Continued from page 11)

When the glorified, crowned Jesus Christ returns to this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, He will immediately gather unto Himself His elect (Matt. 24:31).

Who is it who will be united with Jesus Christ at that momentous occasion? It will be those in the Church who are clothed in "fine linen, clean and white" (Rev. 19:8) — those who are without "spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing," those who are "holy and without blemish" (Eph. 5:27).

"Called, and chosen, and faithful"

When Jesus Christ returns to this earth as world ruler — as King of kings and Lord of lords — He will be joined by those and only those who have faithfully kept His commandments: "And they that are [at that time] with him are called, and chosen, and faithful" (Rev. 17:14).

Yes, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Few ever become part of God's Church — part of God's elect, His specially chosen ones.

And, even if Christ chooses us and puts us into His Church, we will not be with Him at His Second Coming unless we remain faithful unto the very end (Rev. 2:10)!

Some who have been called and chosen have not been faithful unto the end. Look at the many God has called and chosen — placed in His Church — who have not remained faithful. It is truly saddening.

Those who haven't endured this life's trials will not make it into the Kingdom of God at Christ's Second Coming unless they deeply repent of their faithlessness, throw themselves on God's mercy and receive the grace and strength from God to be counted faithful at Christ's coming.

When you study the parable of the sower, where do you think you fit in? Will you be among those seed that fell on the stony places? Or will you be among those that fell amid the thorns?

Or will you be counted among the seed that fell on the good ground and brought forth good fruit — 30-fold, 60-fold or 100-fold?

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

trials were so great sometimes it seemed God would *never* come to his rescue — yet God always did!

Truly these trials teach us to be *patient* — for it often seems an eternity before God finally delivers us. How often I have experienced this personally. Yet, *always* God has intervened *before it was too late!*

God chose Paul to be an apostle of Jesus Christ, and the Lord said, "I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake" (Acts 9:16).

And late in life Paul wrote: "In all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, In stripes, in imprisonments [people probably would call Paul a crook, a racketeer, an impostor and a jailbird today], in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings" (II Cor. 6:4-5). Paul outlined more of his troubles and sufferings in II Corinthians 11:23-28.

Perhaps a chosen servant of God may be called upon to endure more trials, troubles and tests of faith than other Christians — but every Christian shall suffer persecution and meet fiery trials, sorrows, troubles, tests of faith. All our readers who are Christians will understand. Let us not murmur or grumble. Let us have FAITH, and endure in our faith *patiently*.

All these problems, troubles and trials are allowed to test us, strengthen us in faith and character and prepare us for joy eternally in God's Kingdom. Paul wrote, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the GLORY which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18). □

Of all the billions of people now inhabiting this earth, we, the few, have been chosen by God to do a special job — to preach the Gospel to the world (Matt. 24:14) — and to receive salvation now. Let us make certain that we remain obediently "faithful unto death" so that we will receive the "crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him" (Jas. 1:12). □