

The Full Context of the Gospel

All Scriptural References are from the Legacy Standard Bible

Introduction:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

THIS IS NOT THE FULL CONTEXT OF THE GOSPEL!

John 3:17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

These verses raises two questions - 1) Why do we need to be Saved? 2) What do we need to be saved from?)

1A. THE BEGINNING OF CREATION

1B. The Beginning

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...

2B. A Perfect Beginning

Genesis 1:31

And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

3B. **Genesis 2:16-17**

And Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may surely eat; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat from it; for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

2A. THE BAD NEWS

1B. Rebellion/Sin = The Fall

Genesis 3:6

Then the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, so she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

2B. God Keeps His Promise = Death

Genesis 3:17-19

Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it';

Cursed is the ground because of you;

In pain you will eat of it

All the days of your life.

"Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;

And you will eat the plants of the field;

By the sweat of your face

You will eat bread,

Till you return to the ground,

Because from it you were taken;

For you are dust,

And to dust you shall return."

3B. The Wages of Sin is Death

Romans 6:23a

For the wages of sin is death ...

4B. God Demands Perfection

Matthew 5:48

"... you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

5B. No one is Perfect - All have Sinned!

Romans 3:23

"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

6B. We are Separated from God - NO HOPE!

Isaiah 59:2

"... your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God". And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.

3A. THE DEFAULT

1B. Tormented in this Flame.

Luke 16:24

"And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.'

2B. Everlasting Fire

Matthew 25:41

“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels...

3B. Punished with Everlasting Destruction

2 Thessalonians 1:9

These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, AWAY FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD AND FROM THE GLORY OF HIS MIGHT...

4B. No Rest Day or Night

Revelation 14:11

“And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

5B. Lake of Fire and Brimstone, Tormented Day and Night Forever and ever.

Revelation 20:10

And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

4A. THE GOOD NEWS

1B. The First Promise of Victory and a Savior = Proto-evangelium

Genesis 3:15

... And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her seed;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

2B. The Promise Fulfilled

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

3B. The Core of the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures ...

4B. Repentance Leads to Salvation

2 Corinthians 7:10

For godly sorrow produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world brings about death.

5B. Salvation is a Free Gift

Romans 6:23b

... the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

6B. Grace Alone and not by our Works

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not of works, so that no one may boast.

7B. God's Grace is Sufficient

2 Corinthians 12:9

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

8B. God Demonstrates His Love by coming to us First.

Romans 5:8

... God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9B. There is only One Way!

John 14:6

... "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through Me.

10B. No one has an Excuse for not Believing.

Romans 1:19-20

... that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, both His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

11B. We Must Confess and Believe.

Romans 10:9

... if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved...