Do We Need A New Gospel?

Galatians 1:6-10

Introduction

- Knowledge is available at our fingertips
  - We have continuous access to entertainment and social media
- The philosophies of man continue to develop, with more and more dismissing our need for God and His word
  - When trying to share the gospel, it is not uncommon for some to say that it is outdated, that we need a "new" gospel that is more up to date on social issues and the times

Introduction

- We also find this trend in the church with efforts to make the gospel more "relevant" for today's needs
  - Worship, then, becomes about entertainment, tolerance and acceptance, greater emphasis on social needs, and less emphasis on sin and sanctification
- Therefore the cry for a "new" gospel

This problem is not new

- Jeremiah 6:16-17 – "We will not pay attention"
- Isaiah 30:9-11 – "children unwilling to hear the instruction of the Lord"
- Matthew 15:3-9 – "in vain do they worship me"
- Galatians 1:6-10 – "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him"
- Acts 17:21 – "… spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new"
  - cf. Colossians 2:8 – "… takes you captive by philosophy …"
- At the root of every "new" religion is the desire for "a new gospel"

Some things have not changed

The world has not changed

- It still works the same as when God created it
  - Genesis 8:22 – "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease"
  - cf. II Peter 3:4-7 – "all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation"

Some things have not changed

The nature of man has not changed

  - Genesis 1:26-27 – "… God created man in his own image"
- Though the Earth has been around for many thousands of years, the nature of man remains the same
  - We need the same essentials to survive.
  - And we still struggle with the same problems – emotions, lusts, senses
    - cf. I John 2:16 – "the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions"

Some things have not changed

The nature of man has not changed

- Genesis 6:5 – "… the wickedness of man was great in the earth"
- II Timothy 3:1-5 – "having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people"
- Romans 3:23 – "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

Some things have not changed

Sin is still the sickness that afflicts us all

- Physical diseases and sickness mutate and so the treatments need to be adapted to cure them.
- But the "disease" of sin has remained the same
  - Introduced to the world by Adam and Eve
    - Romans 5:12 – "… death spread to all men because all sinned"
    - Sin has not been eradicated because at the heart of sin are the same motives, desires and, attitudes.
    - Genesis 3:6 – "… good … delight … desired …"
      - Again cf. I John 2:16 – "the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions

Some things have not changed

Sin is still the sickness that afflicts us all

- Romans 6:23 – "… the wages of sin is death"
- Isaiah 59:1-3 – "… your sins have hidden his face from you …"
- Colossians 1:21 – "who once were alienated and hostile …" (cf. Verse 22)
- Ultimately sin will lead to eternal condemnation
  - Galatians 5:19-21 – "… will not inherit the kingdom of God" (cf. Verses 22-24)
  - I Corinthians 6:9-10 – "… will not inherit the kingdom of God" (cf. Verse 11)

Some things have not changed

Sin is still the sickness that afflicts us all

- The solution to sin is still the same as when the gospel was first preached
  - Romans 6:23 – "… the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"
  - Acts 4:11-12 – "… there is salvation in no one else"
  - I Peter 3:21 – "… an appeal to God for a good conscience"

Some things have not changed

Satan has not changed

- He lied to Eve and tempted her. He is the same evil and manipulative one today as he was then.
  - I Peter 5:8 – "… the devil prowls around like a roaring lion"
  - Matthew 7:15 – "Beware of false prophets"
  - I John 4:1 – "… many false prophets have gone out into the world"
  - I John 5:19 – "… the whole world lies in the power of the evil one"

Some things have not changed

Satan has not changed

- II Corinthians 11:13-14 – "… even Satan disguises himself …"
- The fate of his followers has not changed
  - Matthew 15:13-14 – "both will fall into a pit"
  - Revelation 20:15 – "… thrown into the lake of fire"
  - Revelation 21:8 – "… the lake that burns with fire and sulfur"
- James 4:7 – "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you"

Some things have not changed

The eternal word of God

- Matthew 4:1-11 – "It is written …"
- Deuteronomy 6:13 – "It is the Lord your God you shall fear"
- Deuteronomy 8:3 – "… man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord"
- Ephesians 3:8-11 – "… the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known …"
- Isaiah 55:11 – "… my word … shall not return to me empty"
- I Peter 1:24-25 – "… the word of the Lord remains forever"

Some things have not changed

The Gospel saved people when it was spoken

- Acts 2:38-41 – "… there were added that day about three thousand souls"

The Gospel transformed lives

- Paul – from persecutor to preacher
  - I Timothy 1:12-15 – "formerly I was a blasphemer"
  - Romans 6:17-18 – "… have become obedient from the heart …"
  - I Corinthians 6:11 – "And such were some of you"

The Gospel is still the answer today

- The gospel addresses that which has not changed
  - Romans 1:16-17 – "… it is the power of God for salvation"
- It is the account of what God has done to redeem mankind from sin
  - Romans 5:6-9 – "… Christ died for the ungodly"
  - I Corinthains 15:1 – "in which you stand"
- It provides the solution to the problem of sin
  - Romans 10:9-10 – "you will be saved"
  - Acts 2:38 – "… the forgiveness of your sins"
  - Acts 22:16 – "… wash away your sins"
- We are still saved by the same pattern today

The Gospel is still the answer today

- Its principals of morality and humanity are still the best course for a better society
- We must treat one another with love
  - I Corinthians 13:1-8 – "Love never ends"
  - Matthew 5:44 – "Love your enemies"
  - Romans 13:9-10 – "… love is the fulfilling of the law"
- Godly attitudes are still what are desperately needed today
  - James 3:17 – "… righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace"
  - Galatians 6:7-8 – "… whatever one sows, that will he also reap"

Obeying The Gospel

Hear the Word of God

►James 1:21 – "… receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

Believe the Gospel message about Jesus

►I John 3:23-24 – "… that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ …"

Repent of your sins

►Acts 3:19 – "Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out"

Obeying The Gospel

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

►Matthew 10:32 – "Every one therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven."

Be immersed in water

►Mark 16:15-16 – "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved …"

Remain faithful

►Matthew 7:21 – "… the one who does the will of my Father …"