

A BOGUS GOSPEL = A BOGUS FAITH

It has been said that “The average evangelical doesn't present the gospel clear enough for the non-elect to reject it.” It is most serious to preach a gospel that fosters a FALSE ASSURANCE in the hearts of those who really do not know Christ. We proclaim the gospel of GOD'S GRACE, but it is a transforming GRACE (Titus 2:11-12).

When people are born-again, they are changed from the inside out, never to be the same again (Jn. 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17). Multitudes are “assured” of heaven, but their lives are a contradiction to the transforming power of the gospel (Rom. 1:16-17). Often, the reason for this is that many have actually received a different or incomplete “Lordless gospel” and have never really been BORN AGAIN because they have been taught a deficient or bogus faith.

The blood of Christ and the person of Christ are inseparable (Heb. 10:29). Who Jesus is as Lord-God cannot be separated from Who He is as Savior! Lord and Savior is a package! You can't receive the gift without receiving the GIVER for who He is.

In salvation, we must receive CHRIST Himself and not merely the work of Christ. We must believe in His NAME – that is He must be believed on for WHO He is (Jn. 1:12; 20:31). Christ's blood sacrifice is the only basis of forgiveness but is not independent from the PERSONHOOD of Christ. It is WHO He is as the God-Man that gave His life's blood infinite value!

SAVING FAITH involves receiving Christ for WHO He is as Lord-God AND for WHAT He has done as Savior. Thus, we are exhorted to “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ” in order to be saved (Acts 16:31). Savior and Lord are inseparable. SAVING FAITH personally embraces both truths. Christ is the LORD who SAVES.

When the angel came to Joseph and announced that Mary was miraculously pregnant by the Holy Spirit, he then shared WHO Jesus would be.

Matthew 1:21–23 (NKJV)

21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:

23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

JESUS means “Savior”. Jesus would be the Savior Who would “save His people from their sins.” But He would also be “God with us.” Jesus is God-Savior and must be believed on for WHO He is. If you reject Jesus as your God you can’t be saved! If you reject Jesus as your Savior you can’t be saved. Saving faith believes on Him as Lord-God and Savior!

Many want a Savior in the end, but they don’t want a LORD in the present. However, if He isn’t believed on as PERSONAL Lord and Savior in the present, He won’t be Savior in the end. What God has joined together (the person and work of Christ) is affirmed in true SAVING FAITH! Do not be deceived!

“At the day of Doom men shall be judged according to their fruits. It will not be said then, Did you believe? But were you doers, or talkers only?” -**John Bunyan**

1 John 3:7–8 (NKJV)

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.