

## 5. Believe ... the faith in Christ's payment "in him"

### a. Christ's payment must be the object of belief

- 1) John 3:16 says "*whosoever believeth in him*". It is not belief in a church or a religion. It is belief in Christ because of what He did on the cross for our sin.
- 2) Jesus died, was buried, and rose from the dead to pay the debt of sin for all mankind. He is the propitiation for sin. (1 John 2:2) "*And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*"

### b. What is believing?

- 1) *Believe* is the verb form of faith.
- 2) Believing in Christ is more than believing about Him.
- 3) This Greek word translated "in" means into, unto, or upon. It is placing your entire hope of forgiveness, rescue from hell, and eternal life in heaven upon Christ who died and rose again to pay for your sin.
- 4) Believing follows confession (i.e., repentance) and takes place in the heart.
- 5) True repentance and believing upon Christ will naturally lead to receiving Christ's gift by simply asking Him for it.
  - a) (Romans 10:13) "*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*"
  - b) (John 1:12) "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*"
- 6) Salvation does not just happen to a person who completes a catechism course or Bible study. It is a conscious belief and request communicated to God.

**Conclusion:** The message of evangelism can be summed up in five words: Sin, Hell, Jesus, Repentance, and Believe. If you will memorise these five words and at least one key verse for each word, you will be able to clearly share the Gospel with a friend. I strongly recommend that you download these notes and study them carefully until you can easily explain it.

**Lord's Supper:** Read 1Co 11:23-32. Christ asked us to remember His death. Briefly review the above message. Give time to examine the heart. Partake.

# The Message of Evangelism

4 June 2017 PM - John 3:16 - Evang17 - Scott Childs

**Introduction:** That night in the Philippian jail while Paul and Silas were suffering from bleeding wounds and painful stocks, the Lord did a miracle and sent a massive earthquake that shook the jail to pieces setting the prisoners all free. However, that was not the only miracle God did that night. He worked a miracle in the Philippian jailor's heart. That stone-hearted cruel jailor rushed in and fell down before Paul and Silas and cried, "*What must I do to be saved?*" (Acts 16:30) He obviously had heard their Gospel message and wanted to know how to apply it. The Gospel message and how to apply it is the message of evangelism.

**Transition:** This evening I want to divide the message of the Gospel into five parts, each identified by a word, that can help us understand it, remember it, and explain it more clearly to an unbeliever. **John 3:16.**

## 1. Sin ... the problem (the reason for Jn 3:16)

### a. He MUST believe he is a sinner

- 1) He must believe that God is his sovereign. God is his creator. God is holy. God sets the rules. Any failure to obey God's rules is sin – whether it be a lie or murder, a swear word or adultery, disobeying a parent or stealing. (James 2:10) "*For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*"
- 2) Until a person truly believes he is a sinner, he cannot be saved.
  - a) (Ecclesiastes 7:20) "*For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.*"
  - b) (Romans 3:10) "*As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*"
  - c) (Romans 3:23) "*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*"
  - d) (James 4:17) "*Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.*"

### b. He MUST not excuse his guilt with good deeds

- 1) Being good is not good enough  
(Ephesians 2:8-9) "*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

*Not of works, lest any man should boast."*

- a) (Titus 3:5) "*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*"
- 2) Being religious is not sufficient
  - a) Nicodemus was VERY religious yet Jesus said he was not ready for heaven. (John 3:3) "*Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*"
  - b) Many religious will be lost. (Matthew 7:21-23) "*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*"

## 2. Hell ... the punishment "perish"

### a. The Spirit MUST convict him of his sin

- 1) Admitting sin is the first step, but he must be convicted that his sin condemns him to hell.
- 2) Only the Holy Spirit of God can convict a sinner. (John 16:8) "*And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*" When the Spirit convicts, the sinner will clearly know that he deserves to go to hell for the sins he has committed.

### b. He must believe that God will punish his sin in hell

- 1) (John 3:36) "*... he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*"
- 2) (Romans 6:23) "*For the wages of sin is death...*"
- 3) (Revelation 21:8) "*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*"
- 4) (Revelation 20:14-15) "*And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever*

*was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

## 3. Jesus ... the provision "so loved that he gave"

### a. God loves you and wants to rescue you from hell

- 1) God does not love your sin, but he loves you.
- 2) He does not want you to perish in hell. (2 Peter 3:9) "*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*"

### b. Jesus died in your place to pay for your sins

- 1) (Romans 5:8-9) "*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*"
- 2) (2 Corinthians 5:21) "*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*"
- 3) (1 Peter 3:18) "*For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*"

## 4. Repent ... the change of mind "believeth"

### a. Repentance is a change of mind about ...

- 1) Your sin – seeing it as an evil offense to God
- 2) Your direction in life – desiring a new life
- 3) The solution for your sin – Jesus is the only hope

### b. Repentance is essential to being saved

- 1) A person cannot have saving faith in Christ without repentance. Saving faith has not purpose without a clear conviction of the desperate need to be saved from hell.
- 2) (Luke 13:3) "*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*"
- 3) (Acts 3:19) "*Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, ...*"
- 4) (Romans 10:9) "*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*"  
Confession is a change of mind that agrees with God.