

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1963

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PART 62: THE GOSPEL

THE GOSPEL

Jesus stated that the gospel of the kingdom would be preached in all nations of the world and then the end of the world shall take place. **Matthew 24:14**

The word *gospel* is derived from the Anglo-Saxon term *god-spell*, meaning “good story,” a rendering of the Latin *evangelium* and the Greek *euangelion*, meaning “good news” or “good telling.”¹

Mark has a slightly different wording on this subject when he stated that the gospel must be published among all nations. **Mark 13:10**

Luke omitted this statement of Jesus.

Up to this time, the God-man had not allowed the disciples to preach the gospel to the Gentiles. **Matthew 10:5**

Jesus came to offer His life as a sacrifice for the human race. **John 3:14-18**

After the resurrection, Jesus made sure the disciples knew He wanted the gospel to be preached to all nations – Jew and Gentile. **Matthew 28:18-20**

THE END

The preaching of the Gospel to all nations did not start immediately after the church was born on the day of Pentecost. The apostles still had the faulty mindset that the Gentiles were soulless; only descendants of Abraham could be saved. The change did not come until the Holy Spirit moved upon a Roman centurion named Cornelius to send for the apostle Peter, who would go on to preach the Gospel to this Gentile and his household. **Acts 10:34-48**

Peter traveled to Jerusalem to confront the church leadership with the fact that Gentiles could be redeemed just like the Jews. **Acts 11:15-18**

The technology at the time of Jesus was primitive in comparison to what is available today. The transportation open to people were ships, horses, donkeys, camels, wagons, and walking. The different nations lacked modern road systems.

The true Gospel was preached until 325 A.D., when Roman Catholicism was created by Emperor Constantine and a thousand bishops.

¹ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Gospel-New-Testament>



Since the salvation doctrine of Romanism claims that it stems from the church, no one was born again by the preaching of the Catholic missionaries. People became Christians in name only, mired in the worship of Mary and other so-called saints.

The Gospel reached some nations until A.D. 325, but it was not until after Martin Luther's reformation, that mission work resumed after 1550. Yet there was no change in technology; only ships, wagons, horses, donkeys and camels were available. Through the Pilgrims, Puritans, Moravians and the Baptists, the Gospel spread to North America and throughout Europe. The expansion of the British Empire facilitated the preaching of the Gospel to Africa, India, China and other places.

It was not until after World War II in 1945 that the different Christian denominations in the United States ramped up their missionary work. A number of para-church groups like YWAM, Campus Crusades, Full Gospel Business Men's International Fellowship and many more began sending missionaries all over the world. Airplanes could transport people to any nation in less than a day.

The Wycliffe Bible Translators were founded in 1942 to ensure the Bible was available in every spoken language. Their efforts have seen the Bible, or parts of it, translated into 3,658 languages of the 7,394 languages used on earth.²

History has seen the Gospel preached in almost every nation; however, not every people group has a Bible in their language. We are now closer than ever to the timetable set by Jesus when He stated the Gospel must be preached to every nation before the end.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wycliffe_USA