

## Getting the Gospel Straight – Part III

### Introduction

- I. The third indispensable teaching of the Gospel is teaching about \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Just like “God” and “sin,” the name “Jesus” also assumes a lot of \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Based on the evangelistic messages in the book of Acts, it seems clear that in our teaching about Jesus, we need to answer four questions:
- II. What was the meaning of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. The Apostles were always preaching that Jesus was the promised \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Acts 2:22 – Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, ***a man attested to you by God*** with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know...
  2. Acts 10:38 – You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how ***God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power***, and how ***He went about doing good*** and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for ***God was with Him***.
- B. One of the *main* expectations about the Messiah was that He would be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Acts 7:52 – Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of ***the Righteous One***, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become.
  2. Acts 2:27 – You will not allow your ***Holy One*** to undergo decay.
  3. Acts 4:27 – For truly in this city there were gathered together against ***Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed***, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel.
- C. In their evangelism, when the apostles taught that Jesus was the promised Messiah, they were teaching that He was the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ One of God.
1. Acts 3:13-14 – The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has ***glorified His servant Jesus***, the one whom you delivered and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you disowned ***the Holy and Righteous One*** and asked for a murderer to be granted to you.

2. Acts 13:27-28 – For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither [the Messiah] nor the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning Him. And though *they found no ground for putting Him to death...*
3. Cf. Hebrews 4:15 – For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.
4. Cf. 1 John 3:5; 1 Peter 2:22
5. Cf. Hebrews 7:26 – For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens.

III. What was the meaning of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. In their evangelism, the main point for the apostles was not just that Jesus died, but that He was \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. Acts 2:23 – This Man [the Messiah]... you nailed to a **cross** by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.
  2. Acts 4:10 – Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you **crucified**...
  3. Acts 5:30 – ... Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a **cross**.
  4. Acts 10:39 – They also put Him [the Messiah] to death by hanging Him on a **cross**.
  5. Acts 13:28-29 – They asked Pilate that He be executed. When they had carried out all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the **cross**...
  6. Galatians 3:1 – You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as **crucified**?
  7. 1 Corinthians 1:23 – We preach Christ **crucified**, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness.
  
- B. To say that the Messiah was crucified is to say that the holy and righteous One was \_\_\_\_\_ of God!
  1. Deuteronomy 21:22-23 – If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his corpse shall not hang all night on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God).
  2. But in the OT, God's curse is specifically reserved only for Law-\_\_\_\_\_ and sinners.

IV. What was the meaning of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. In their evangelism, the Apostles emphasized not just that Jesus rose from the dead, but that \_\_\_\_\_ raised Jesus from the dead!
  1. Acts 2:23-24, 27 – This Man... you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power... Because You will not abandon my soul to Hades, nor allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.
  2. Acts 2:32 – This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

3. Acts 3:15 – [You] put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses.
4. Acts 4:10 – By the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead...
5. Acts 5:30 – The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.
6. Acts 10:39-40 – They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible.
7. Acts 13:29-30 – When they had carried out all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the cross and laid Him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead.
8. Acts 13:34-35, 37 – As for the fact that He raised Him up from the dead, no longer to return to decay, He has spoken in this way: “I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.” Therefore He also says in another Psalm, “You will not allow Your Holy One to undergo decay” ... He whom God raised did not undergo decay.

B. When *God* raised Jesus from the dead, He vindicated Jesus by proving that He was \_\_\_\_\_ a law-breaker and that He did *not* bear God’s curse for any sin of His \_\_\_\_\_.

C. The resurrection of Jesus proved that He was the holy and righteous \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Acts 13:32-33 (cf. 17:18) – And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, “You are My Son; today I have begotten You.”
2. Romans 1:4 – [Christ Jesus] was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead.

V. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ means that He is the \_\_\_\_\_ and that through Him we can have \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

A. If the holy and righteous Son of God didn’t bear God’s curse for any sin of His own, then on \_\_\_\_\_ did He suffer God’s curse?

1. Galatians 3:13 – Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”
2. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (cf. Acts 26:18) – He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
3. In His life on earth, Jesus perfectly fulfilled every \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s Law in the place of sinners.
4. In His death, Jesus bore the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Law in the place of sinners.

B. Scriptures (cf. Acts 4:12)

1. Acts 2:38 – Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the *forgiveness of your sins*; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

2. Acts 3:19 – Therefore repent and return, so that your *sins may be wiped away*, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.
3. Acts 5:31 – He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and *forgiveness of sins*.
4. Acts 10:43 – Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives *forgiveness of sins*.
5. Acts 13:38-39 – Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him *forgiveness of sins* is proclaimed to you, and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.
6. Acts 26:16-18 – For this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness... rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive *forgiveness of sins* and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

VI. What is the meaning of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_?

A. Scriptures

1. Acts 2:33-36 – Therefore having been *exalted to the right hand of God*, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘*Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet*’” Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both *Lord* and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.
2. Acts 3:19-23 – Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom *heaven must receive* until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. Moses said, “The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed to everything He says to you. And *it will be that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.*”
3. Acts 5:31 – [Jesus] is the one whom God *exalted to His right hand as a Prince [King] and a Savior*, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.
4. Acts 10:42 – And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as *Judge of the living and the dead*.
5. Acts 17:31 – [God] has fixed a day in which He will *judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed*, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.
6. Acts 24:25 – As [Paul] was discussing righteousness, self-control and *the judgment to come*, Felix became frightened...

7. Acts 8:12 – But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about *the kingdom* of God and the name of Jesus Christ [*the King*], they were being baptized, men and women alike.
  8. Acts 28:23 – Paul was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about *the kingdom* of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus [*the King*].
  9. Acts 28:30-31 – Paul was welcoming all who came to him, preaching *the kingdom* of God and teaching concerning the *Lord* Jesus Christ [*the King*].
- B. In their evangelism, the apostles always proclaimed Jesus not only as Savior, but also as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Through Jesus Christ, we can have forgiveness of sins.
  2. But it is also through Jesus Christ that God will judge the world and \_\_\_\_\_ sinners.
  3. What shall we do to be saved?

### Conclusion

- A. A summary of the Apostles' evangelistic teaching about Jesus Christ.
1. They taught that **in His life** Jesus was the holy and righteous Son of God. (He perfectly fulfilled every requirement of God's Law).
  2. They taught that **in His death** Jesus was accursed of God and suffered His wrath just like a sinner and a law-breaker.
  3. They taught that **in His resurrection**, God vindicated Jesus and proved that He suffered God's curse not for any sin of His own.
  4. Instead, as the holy and righteous Son of God, Jesus suffered God's curse in the place of guilty sinners.
  5. And *because* He has done this, we can now have forgiveness of sins.
  6. Finally, the apostles also taught that Jesus **ascended** to the right hand of God as Lord and King and so it's also through Jesus that guilty sinners will be judged.
- B. Some Scriptures that we can use to teach sinners about the person and work of Jesus Christ.
1. 2 Corinthians 5:21 – He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
  2. Galatians 3:13 – Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”
  3. Romans 5:6-9 – For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.
  4. Romans 8:1-4 – Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh

and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5. 1 John 4:10 – In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation (the substitute blood sacrifice) for our sins.

C. What is the good news (pure and simple)?

### Teaching our Children

- Q. When we tell the Gospel to our friend/neighbor, what are the first two things that we need to teach him about?
- A. We need to teach him about **God** and then about **sin**. (Review these teachings)
- Q. What is the third teaching of the Gospel?
- A. Teaching about Jesus Christ.
- Q. When we tell the Gospel to our friend or neighbor, what do we need to teach him about Jesus' life?
- A. Jesus lived a holy and righteous life. He perfectly obeyed all of God's laws. (Something that we could never do.)
- Q. What do we need to teach our friend/neighbor about Jesus' death?
- A. When Jesus died on the cross He suffered God's curse (God's wrath) as though He was a sinner who had broken all of God's laws.
- Q. What do we need to teach our friend/neighbor about Jesus' resurrection?
- A. Since God raised Jesus from the dead, it proves that Jesus did not suffer God's wrath because of His own sin.  
Instead, as the holy and righteous Son of God, Jesus suffered God's wrath in the place of sinners like us.
- Q. If Jesus is the holy and righteous Son of God who kept all of God's laws perfectly...  
...and yet He still suffered God's wrath on the cross as if He was a sinner who had broken all of God's laws...  
then this means that he must have suffered in the place of sinners like you and me!  
What does this mean for us?!?
- A. This means that through Jesus Christ our sins can be **forgiven!**
- Q. What do we need to teach our friend/neighbor about Jesus' ascension?
- A. Since Jesus has ascended into heaven He is not only *Savior*, but *Lord*, and *King*, and *Judge*.  
It is through Jesus that God will judge sinners!
- Q. Since it is through Jesus that God will judge sinners, then what is the next thing that our friend/neighbor really needs to know?
- A. He needs to know *how* he can have the forgiveness of sins that comes through Jesus Christ.

Reflect with your children on the Scriptures under Conclusion B. *Personalize* these verses!