

Gospel Basics #1

by Bob Young

Introduction

Thank you for coming. Some are Christians, some are not.
Some have come from curiosity. Some are here because of duty.
Some are here to support and indicate interest.

Let us resolve that we will have an open mind, ready to learn, Acts 17:11

Some people have minds like cement—thoroughly mixed and permanently set.

A person with a closed mind cannot learn.

A person with a closed mind cannot consider truth.

The Bible

The Bible has answer to important questions :

Where did I come from?

Why am I here?

Where am I going?

What will happen when I die?

The Bible is from God, 2 Tim. 3:16-17

This explains the unity of the Bible, 2 Pet 1:20-21

Things to consider when studying the Bible

- Who is speaking and to whom are the words spoken
- What circumstances in the context help us understand the meaning
- Is the language literal or figurative
- The truth of the Bible is better understood when all verses on a subject are considered in the appropriate context.
- More difficult passages should be understood in a way that harmonizes and agrees with less difficult/more clear passages.
- One must study the Bible with an open mind, not with prejudice or preconceived ideas.

Jesus promised the HS would guide the apostles into all truth, John 16:13

The apostles were instructed not to teach a different gospel, Gal. 1:8-10

God's words are unchanging, we do not have the right to change God's words, we cannot add to or take from the word of God.

Jesus

Jesus is the only way, John 14:6

There are two gates/ways, Matt. 7:13-14; many choose the way that does not lead to eternal life.

This means that many do not choose Jesus.

Jesus has all authority, Matt. 28:18

Grace and truth came through Jesus, John 1:17

Those who love Jesus will keep his commandments, John 14:15

Jesus' ministry is based on a better covenant, Heb. 8:6-8

In Christ we are all one, regardless of gender, nationality, or social status, Gal. 3:26-29

Jesus is the source of eternal salvation

Sin

Man's greatest problem is sin, John 8:21-24

A person who dies in sin is separated from God

A person who dies in sin cannot go to heaven with Jesus.

All have sinned, Rom. 3:9,23

The wages of sin is death, spiritual, Rom. 6:23

Sin is breaking the law, 1 John 3:4

Thus, sin is something you do, not something you inherit.

Each person is responsible for his own sins, Ezek. 18:4,20-24

Sin comes into our lives through our own weakness, Jas 1:12-15; 4:17

Sin is also defined in 1 John 2:15-17

Satan is also looking for us, 1 Pet. 5:6-8

Sinful works of the flesh are plainly visible, Gal. 5:19-21

Some people become so wicked God gives up on them, Rom. 1:18-32

People perish because they do not love the truth, 2 Thess 2:8-12

God does not want people to be lost, 1 Tim. 2:4

God wants you to know truth and be saved.

Therefore God has given human beings a gift that will answer our greatest problem, the problem of sin.

Jesus Solves Our Problems

We have a sin problem, we have a death problem, we have an eternity problem.

Jesus came to solve all our problems.

Jesus on the cross became sin for us, 2 Cor. 5:18-20

Jesus died so we might live, Rom. 4:25

Jesus ascended so he can come back for us, John 14:1-6

What can I do about my sin?

When I sin, I am separated from God.

A person who dies in sin is lost eternally.

To overcome sin, we must believe in Jesus, John 8:24; 12:42,43

God's kindness leads us to repentance, Rom. 2:4

God wants all people everywhere to repent, 2 Pet 3:9; Acts 17:31

God's solution is the gospel, 1 Cor. 15:1-4

What is the gospel?

Obedying the gospel is necessary for salvation, 2 Thess 1:6-9

Punishment awaits those who do not obey the gospel

Faith, repentance, and baptism are part of preaching the gospel, Lk 24:45-47

How can I obey events?

I can imitate them, bringing them to reality in my life.

I can obey them in the sense that I do the same.

Jesus died; I can die to my sins, Rom. 6:4-6

Jesus was buried; I can be buried in baptism.

Jesus was raised; I can be raised to newness of life.

My sin deserved death, but Jesus died for me, so when I die to sin, my spiritual criminal record is erased.

I cannot escape the death penalty, but Jesus died on my behalf, and my grave problem is solved. I participate in his death in baptism.

I cannot solve my eternity problem with my own power, but Jesus has been raised, and my resurrection is certain.