

The Everlasting Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ



“...and when we shall see him, there is no beauty (appearance) that we should desire him” (Isaiah 53:2)

Jesus Christ is both Lord and Christ. (Acts 2:36) As Lord, he is the eternal supreme authority and master controller of everything in heaven and earth. In all of history, no one has had or will ever have more power, wisdom, knowledge or wealth than the Lord Jesus Christ. (Colossians 1:15-2:10; John 1:1-18) As Christ, Jesus is the anointed Messiah (Christos in Greek; Mashiyach in Hebrew), the great anointed deliverer of Israel. (Daniel 9:25-26; John 1:41) His name, Jesus, is the English equivalent of the Hebrew Yeshua and it means salvation. In Matthew 1:21 the English scripture says that he will be called JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Jesus or Yeshua is the image or likeness of the invisible God. (Hebrews 1:1-3) In him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. (Colossians 2:9) In other words, the heavenly Father, the supreme Deity, the creator or divinity first appeared in Israel as Yeshua or Jesus Christ about 2003 years ago. (Colossians 1:13-18) As Israel's prophets had written centuries earlier, Jesus was fathered by the Holy Spirit in the small Jewish town of Bethlehem, also known as the city of David, in the province of Judaea within Israel. (Micah 5:2; John 7:42) His mother was the virgin Mary. His father was the Holy Spirit, not Joseph of Arimethea. (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-7; Matthew 2:1-6). As prophesied, Jesus was a direct descendant of Abraham and Kings David and Solomon. (Genesis 12:3; 1 Chronicles 22:6-10; Matthew 1:1-17) Israel's prophets wrote that he would minister in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1-7; Matthew 4:12-25) and willingly suffer a crucifixion to pay for our sins in order to make reconciliation, the forgiveness of sins, possible between the Holy One of God and sinful people. (Isaiah 52:13-53; Psalm 22; Hebrews 2:9-17; Romans 3:25, 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14) They wrote he should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should show light to the Jews and to the Gentiles. (Acts 2:14-40, 26:13-23)

What message did Yeshua or Jesus teach?

Jesus preached the same message that John the Baptist preached, “Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” “Repent ye, and believe the gospel.” (Matthew 3:2, 4:12-17; Luke 16:16; Mark 1:14-15) *Gospel* means a good message. The message is that the kingdom of God or heaven has drawn near or is in the midst of us spiritually in the presence of its King, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Luke 11:20) More specifically, the gospel is that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, was buried, rose again the third day according to the scriptures and was seen alive by many eyewitnesses. (1 Corinthians 15:1-7)

The future visible kingdom of God is prepared only for people who personally experience a spiritual birth separate from their original physical birth. (John 3:1-8) A person is born spiritually or born again by repenting of their sin against God and believing that Jesus Christ has the authority as Lord of the kingdom of God to forgive and accept them as his child and to control their life by his Spirit.

Having received new spiritual life by grace through faith in Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10), they are accepted as children of God now (Galatians 3:26), and inherit the everlasting heavenly kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ at his second coming. (2 Peter 1:11) Following Christ, they express faith in the word of his kingdom by living in obedience to his unchangingly pure truth. (Luke 4:4; John 8:31-36, 14:15-24, 15:7-10, 17:13-20; 1 John 2:1-6) This truth is preserved in the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. This is the only divinely breathed holy document or scripture of truth. (Daniel 10:21; Psalm 12:6-7; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 3:15-17) There is also only one everlasting gospel, one faith, one Lord, one God and Father of all. (Revelation 14:6-7; Galatians 1:6-9; John 14:6; Ephesians 4:4-6; Matthew 4:23, 24:14) The unchanging message of John, Jesus, the original apostles and all future messengers from God to sinners is repent and believe the good message of the kingdom of God. (Acts 26:20; Matthew 3:8, 10:1-7; Mark 2:17; Luke 24:47)

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What is Repentance?

Webster's 1828 American Dictionary of the English language says it's sorrow for sin as an offence and dishonor to God which is accompanied by an amendment of life. John the Baptist warned those who hadn't forsaken their sinful ways, yet desired to be baptized, "O generation of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance" (Matthew 3:7-8) To repent involves more than changing your mind about who Jesus is. It involves turning away from sinful actions towards the righteousness of Jesus. (Revelation 9:20-21, 16:9-11) Jesus said "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Mark 2:17) and "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5) God commands all men everywhere to repent. (Acts 17:30) In Ezekiel 14:6 and 18:30 it's recorded that the Lord God, whose character never changes, said to the house of Israel: "Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations." "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so that iniquity shall not be your ruin." The Apostle Paul preached that both Jews and Gentiles should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. (Acts 20:21, 26:20) It is God's goodness that leads us to repentance. (Romans 2:4; Acts 5:31) The Spirit of God uses the word of God to convict a person of his guilt before God. This brings a godly sorrow for sin to the person. This results in confession of sin to God. This confession includes a hatred for and desire to forsake sin. As God hears and answers a prayer for forgiveness, his blood spiritually cleanses the guilty conscience from dead works of sin, so that it's a clear and able to serve him. (2 Corinthians 7:8-11; John 8:1-12; Proverbs 8:13; 1 John 1:9; Hebrews 6:1, 9:11-15)

What does Jesus call people to repent of?

Jesus taught that if **any** man will come after me, let him **deny himself**, and take up his cross **daily**, and follow me. (Luke 9:23, Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34) He told a rich young ruler who thought he had religiously kept God's commandments not to commit adultery, to murder, to steal, to lie, to

honor parents, and to love your neighbor as yourself that **no one** is good except God alone. (Matthew 19:17, Mark 10:18, Luke 18:19) In light of the fact that no one is good except God alone, the first thing we are to repent of is our pride that tells us that we are inherently righteous and good. There is none righteous, no, not one. For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. We all fall short of the holy perfection of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 3:10, 23) The voice of antichrist teaches people to do their own will and fulfill themselves in all things because antichrist says that there is no sin upon the earth. This lying spirit teaches that there is no evil but restriction and that people must annihilate restrictions keeping us from expressing ourselves. This is the opposite of what Jesus taught. Jesus tells us that whoever will save his life shall lose it: but whoever shall lose his life (deny himself) for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. (Mark 8:34-35)

Secondly, we are to repent of the sinful thought and behavioral patterns which flow from the vanity of our human nature, flesh or carnal mind. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. (Romans 8:7-8)

Galatians 5:19-21 teach that the works of the flesh are:

- **adultery** (fantasizing about or actually having *any form* of extra-marital sex ; divorcing a faithful spouse in order to marry someone else or marrying someone who has wrongfully divorced their spouse in order to marry you),
- **uncleaness** (unrestrained, excessive immoral thoughts, words and actions),
- **lasciviousness** (*any form* of male gay or female lesbian homosexuality; *any form* of pre-marital sex or fornication; incest; bestiality; loosely running around indulging animalistic sexual desires),
- **idolatry** (attachment and devotion to any group, person, place, symbol or thing in the world above the Lord Jesus Christ with such excessive allegiance or covetous desire for it causing disobedience to the principles or commands of His Word),
- **witchcraft** (sorcery; the art and science of using demonic forces to cause change to occur according to your will through white magic witchcraft to manipulate people and or circumstances for personal gain and in black magic witchcraft for destructive purposes),
- **hatred** (deep rooted, unforgiving opposition to someone; the opposite of friendship toward a person),
- **variance** (quarrels based upon differences of opinion, interpretation, or altered legal conditions),
- **emulations** (malicious, unrighteous heated jealousy or indignation),
- **wrath** (fierce, violent, extreme anger),
- **strife** (*any form* of competitive rivalry or contention for superiority for the purpose of promoting yourself above someone or placing them below you),
- **seditions** (opposition to moral, lawful civil authority),
- **heresies** (cultic or sectarian beliefs unique to an individual or a group which are contrary to the

- sound teaching of the Holy Scriptures),
- **envying** (feeling ill will or spiteful jealousy at the superior condition and happiness of another),
 - **murders** (premeditated killing from extreme hatred or ill will),
 - **drunkenness** (overwhelmed or overpowered by intoxicating alcoholic drink to the point where one becomes physically and mentally impaired),
 - **revellings** (letting loose, carousing, partying or feasting with noisy music and hilarious laughter arising from self-indulgent entertainment).

Galatians 5:21 says that they which do (continually practice without repenting of) such things (a lifestyle consisting of the works of the flesh) *shall not inherit the kingdom of God*. (1 Corinthians 6:9,10; Ephesians 5:5; Matthew 7:13-29, 24:4-5)

How does a person inherit the kingdom of God?

#1: Confess that you have sinned against God.

As an example of repentance and forgiveness of sin consider King David of Israel. The lust of David's sinful flesh for an affair with a very beautiful women quickly turned him from a godly man of faith into an immoral murderer. David committed adultery with Uriah's wife Bathsheba. He then got Uriah drunk and ordered Uriah be killed. After Uriah was killed, David married Bathsheba. (2 Samuel 11) When the Lord spoke through the prophet Nathan to David about these events, David's immediate reaction of heart was "I have sinned against the Lord." (2 Samuel 12: 1-14) The Lord immediately forgave David because he humbly confessed rather than proudly denied his sin. David's Psalm 51 again teaches us that to be forgiven we must confess to God in broken humility that we are born sinful. (behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou will not despise). We admit we've broken the law of God and are justifiably deserving of God's judgment and rejection. (against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest) This is confession. 1 John 1:8-9 teaches that if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. The first step to forgiveness is admitting in confession *to the Lord, the only mediator between God and men (1 Timothy 2:5)*, that we are sinful and have sinned against him in our hearts.

#2. Believe in and receive the Lord Jesus Christ

Be willing to give up *all* the behaviors, thoughts and attitudes which naturally flow from the vanity of your human nature. Human nature naturally wars with God. Our heart deceitfully seeks to make us, rather than Jesus Christ, the center of our universe. In repentance, we acknowledge to God that our heart; the hidden inner person and center of our mind, will and emotions is sinful. We give it's control over to the Lord Jesus Christ. When we truly receive the Lord Jesus Christ as God, we take his

word into our heart as personal truth. Faith in Christ is expressed by denying ourselves leadership of our own lives and allowing the spiritual truth of the word of Christ to lead our lives.

Jesus said in John 6:63, “the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life. Romans 8:1,14 teach that there is therefore no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit and for as many as are *led* by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. “Receiving” Christ means expressing faith in his teachings by living daily under the control of his spirit through obedience to his truth preserved in the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. (Luke 4:4; John 8:31-36, 10:27-28; 14:15-24,15:7-10, 17:13-20; 1 John 2:1-6; Daniel 10:21; Psalm 12:6-7; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 3:15-17; James 1:21-27, 2:14-26)

Receiving Christ, we immediately inherit eternal life; the knowledge of God. (John 17:3)

We don't immediately become perfect like him, but we grow in the grace and knowledge of him throughout the remainder of our lives. (Philippians 3:12-15; 2 Peter 1:1-11, 3:18)

If we sin, Christ forgives us when we confess our sin. (1 John 1:8-10)

In the future, we inherit the kingdom of heaven, escaping the eternal torment of those refusing to repent and receive Christ. (Revelation 20:4-22:17)

If you'd like to know the Lord Jesus Christ and be forgiven for your sins and saved from God's penalty of death and hell for them, simply tell the Lord that now in your own words. Ask him to enter your life and transform it by the power of His Spirit.. If I can answer any questions for you regarding this message, or if you've received Christ after reading it, please e-mail .