

## The Gospel

**Tough Question (Session 3) - What is the Gospel?** Did Jesus really have to die on the cross? Making sense of Jesus' death.

### INTRODUCTION

The word ***gospel*** means “\_\_\_\_\_”. In ancient times this good news would have been the **birth of a \_\_\_\_\_** or a **victory in battle**.

We still celebrate good news even today. We celebrate the **birth of a child, engagement to be married, promotion on the job, a team winning a game or an election victory**.

The **New Testament** **reclaims** this term “gospel” and **invests** in it a \_\_\_\_\_ making it the **most important good news** anyone could hear.

The Bible teaches that God sent his son Jesus to die for our sins so that we may be forgiven and spend eternity with him. The biggest problem facing mankind is that we are sinners and deserve to spend eternity in hell. The gospel says that God has given us a way of escape from this punishment.

### I. What makes up this gospel?

#### Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-3

- Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins.
- He was \_\_\_\_\_.
- He was \_\_\_\_\_ on the third day (Sunday morning).
- All these things were done **according to** \_\_\_\_\_.

### II. Did Jesus really have to die on the cross?

#### A. \_\_\_\_\_ God's Love

1. It **demonstrated God's** great **love** for sinful humanity.
2. The Bible speaks of **Christ's death** as an \_\_\_\_\_.
  - **John 3:16**
  - **Romans 5:8**

#### B. Revealed God's Character

1. Jesus' death proves that God is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. God does not nor can He turn a \_\_\_\_\_ **to sin**. God cannot let sin slide.
  - **Romans 8:32**
  - **1 Peter 3:18**

### C. Share in Our Suffering

1. The consequence of **Adam and Eve's fall** in the garden is that all of mankind must \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus was both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. He experienced the same **limitations, hardships** and **suffering** of mankind which included death.
3. This experience makes Jesus a \_\_\_\_\_ **High Priest**.

### D. Paid the Penalty for Sin

1. His death paid the \_\_\_\_\_ **for the sin** of humankind.
2. He died in our place as a \_\_\_\_\_. He received the punishment that was due us.
  - **1 Corinthians 15:3**
  - **Hebrews 9:28**