which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; (2) By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. (3) For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; (4) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

Paul preached the death and resurrection of Jesus.

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#### What Peter Preached

"Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: (24) Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it." (Acts 2:23-24)

Peter preached the death and resurrection of Jesus.

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#### Conclusion

There is, and always has been, only one

method of salvation. There is only one means of redemption: God's grace through faith in the Messiah.

Old Testament salvation is **by** God's **grace through faith** in the promised and coming **Messiah**.

New Testament salvation is **by** God's **grace through faith** in the already come and coming again **Messiah**.

The only difference is in the amount of revelation available at the time. The Messiah was promised before any human being died, as seen in Genesis 3:15. This promise was given after Adam sinned, but before Abel was killed.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15)

Therefore, all who enter into God's eternal Presence have done so by grace through faith in His Anointed One!

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"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (9) As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." (Galatians 1:8-9)

# The Importance of the Gospel

As we can see from the passage above, it is vitally important that the true Gospel be known and preached. The Holy Spirit writing through Paul expected and endorsed only one

## THE GOSPEL CHALLENGE

salvation message. This truth is also clearly stated by Jesus when He told us that there are no other means of redemption than through Himself.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16), and Jesus says that only through Him is there access to God the Father.

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Any Other Gospel

Galatians 1:8-9 tells us clearly that there are other **false** gospels and that the preachers thereof deserve to be accursed. Preaching heretical gospel messages is incredibly severe to the point that Paul includes **himself** and **angels** from heaven in the curse if they speak of another gospel.

The existence of *other gospels* should not surprise any true believer. It is eternally critical that we **know** and **preach** the true Gospel!

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#### **Accursed**

Accursed is the Greek word "anathema" and is defined in the Strong's Concordance as:

"a (religious) ban or (concretely) excommunicated (thing or person)"

By definition, preachers of false salvation messages should be **severed** from acceptance as members of the Body of Christ.

The Gospel is God's saving power. If a person has the wrong message, can that flawed proclamation redeem them? They are "anathema"!

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### **Different Gospels**

Sadly, there is no shortage of different gospel messages. Every cult and world religion claims to have some *good news* to offer. Each doctrine includes some form of self-effort; some **work** to obtain or maintain salvation.

Very grievously, this includes many who are embraced by Christendom as being believers. Some Christians believe that there are different Gospel messages taught and adopted in the New Testament.

Can this be true? No! Quoted above (John 14:6), Jesus is identifying Himself as being the **only way** of reconciling with God. If He is the only way, would any other message be considered **Good News**?

In the following sections, a careful review of what different godly people in the New Testament preached. We will see that the salvation message was identical.

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What Jesus Preached

"For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they **shall kill him**; and after that he is killed, he shall **rise the third day**." (Mark 9:31)

Jesus preached His death and resurrection.

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### **What Paul Preached**

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you,