



Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

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“The Glory of the Gospel”

When I was in Jerusalem recently, reviewing what I had planned to say at the World Camp for Jesus, the LORD made it clear that He was changing the message. I previously sent the audio for this, but what follows is the message in full (due to time restraints at the Camp).

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

In the beginning (beginning-ness), was (always was) the Word, and the Word was (always was) with (face-to-face) God, and the Word was (always was) God...In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not...And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. (John 1:1, 4, 5, 14)

Jesus Christ came from heaven to earth. He is the Messiah, the Promised One, the Anointed One, the true Light. He is a Divine Person with a Divine nature who took on a human nature in a human body, the Infinite God-Man. He was sent by the Father to save. (John 3:17; John 6:38; 1 John 4:10)

Jesus Christ fulfilled all righteousness, all the righteous requirements of the Law. He was a Son of the Law, and lived in obedience to it, always doing those things that pleased His Father. His obedience met the requirement to earn/merit eternal life, namely, personal, perfect, perpetual obedience. Jesus Christ is the only righteous One. All (in Adam, the Federal Head of the human race) have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Jesus Christ is the Federal Head of a new creation, of those in Him. (1 John 2:1, 2; Romans 3:23; Romans 5:17ff)

Jesus Christ went from obedience to obedience. He learned obedience in the things which He suffered (experienced), becoming obedient even to death on the Cross. (Hebrews 5:8; Philippians 2:8; Romans 5:19). He obeyed willingly, without iniquity, without sin. Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (John 1:29; cf. Genesis 22)

Jesus died on the cross (crucifixion) as a once-for-all-time sacrifice as atonement for sin. He came as Suffering Servant, as the sacrificial lamb, bearing throughout His life the rejection by many but the receiving by some. (John 1:12, 13)

Jesus came as sin-bearer, curse-bearer, bearer of the wrath of God, and bearer of the Glory.

We can speak of His atoning work relative to five aspects:

1. **Sacrifice.**

Jesus Christ in obedience offered Himself up as a substitutionary sacrifice to God for our sins on the cross.

This overcomes and presupposes our human sin and guilt.
[1 Cor 5.7; Eph 5.2; Heb 9.23,26; Heb 10.12](#) and many others.

2. **Propitiation.**

Jesus Christ fully satisfied (propitiated) God's wrath against us by the offering up of Himself on the cross.

This overcomes and presupposes previous divine wrath against us.
[Rom 3.25; Heb 2.17; 1 John 2.2](#)

3. **Reconciliation.**

Jesus Christ "reconciled" us to God -- restored us through His sacrifice on the cross to God. (the meaning of "atonement") Jesus made peace through the Blood of the cross.

This overcomes and presupposes our previous state of alienation from God.
[Rom 5.10,11; 2 Cor 5.17-21; Eph 2.14-17; Col 1.19-22](#)

4. **Redemption.**

Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse, dominion of, and bondage to Satan (Gen. 3), purchasing us back to God through His blood shed on the cross.

This overcomes and presupposes our previous slavery or bondage.
[Matt 20.28; Mark 10.45; 1 Peter 1.18,19; Rev 5.9; Rev 14.3,4](#)

5. **Cross work of destruction.**

Jesus Christ destroyed the works of the devil through his work on the cross.

This overcomes and presupposes a kingdom of evil (satan).
[1 John 3.8; Matt 12.29; Luke 11.21,22; John 12.31; John 16.11; 1 Cor 15.24-26; Col 2.13-15; Heb 2.14,15](#)

Adapted from Dr. Robert L. Reymond's chart on the crosswork of Christ. Reymond, Robert L. A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1998

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Jesus made peace through the Blood of the Cross. What He did on behalf of every true believer frees the believer from the power and penalty of sin, and one day, the presence of sin. Jesus endured the wrath of God against sin, transgression, iniquity, trespass, etc. I like John Stott's definition of the wrath of God being the agony of rejected love. God's wrath is His holy recoil at

all that is evil, anything contrary to His nature and ways. The wrath kept coming and coming and coming on Jesus until divine justice was satisfied. (Romans 3)

Likewise, Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. He made a public spectacle and triumphed. (1 John 3:8; Colossians 2:15)

Jesus died, was buried, and rose again the third day, as He said ([Matthew 16:21](#); see also [John 2:19](#); [Matthew 17:22,23](#); 20:17-19; 26:32; [John 10:17,18](#); etc.). and as the Scriptures prophesied (Isaiah 53, Psalm 22, Psalm 16:8-10 e.g.). Jesus' resurrection demonstrated that the Father accepted Christ's atoning work on behalf of those for whom He stands as Surety of the Covenant, Messiah, and High Priest in the Order of Melchizedek. God exalted Jesus with the Name above every name. (Philippians 2) Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty. He is King of kings and Lord of lords, Ruler over the kings of the earth, the Faithful Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Judge of the Living and the Dead (what is living and what is dead). (Revelation)

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself". Jesus, on the road to Emmaus, Luke 24:25-27.

Along with the Father, the Son, Jesus Christ sends the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Father, the Spirit of Christ. The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the Life Producer, the Spirit of Truth, the Witness. (John 6:63; 1 John 5:6)

Jesus Christ is coming again. (Acts 1:11; Matthew 16:27; Matthew 24) Those who belong to Him are to be ready, to be overcomers, to follow the Lamb wherever He goes, to worship in spirit and in truth, and to be witnesses unto Him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth. (Revelation; Acts 1:8)

Therefore, as a servant of the Most High God, I release the call to repent and believe in Jesus Christ, to believe Him, and to believe what Jesus believes. This call is to repent, or perish.

I proclaim to the nations the Day of the LORD, for first the kingdom comes in grace, but then the kingdom comes in power and great glory. This is the Gospel, the good news to those who believe truly in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. There is no other Name by which one might be saved.

The Spirit of Glory and of God rest upon those on whom God wills. He is holy. Amen.



Think life through. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Just the Messenger,

Mary Craig

Mary Craig, D. Min.

And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached
In all the world for a witness unto all nations,
And then shall the end come. Matthew 24:14

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