

## THE GOSPEL AND THE STORY OF JESUS

November 24, 2013 1 Cor. 15; Acts 10; John 4 by Bob Branch  
Blessed To Be A Blessing, Part 6

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“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes” **Romans 1:16**

**MAIN IDEA: The power is in the Gospel. The Gospel is the story of Jesus. The Gospel is Jesus. Tell that story.**

John 1:12; 17:3; 1 John 5:11-12

### THE APOSTLE’S GOSPEL

“Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you *have taken your stand*.<sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are *being* saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.” “For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve.<sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.” **1 Corinthians 15:1-6**

### BOOK OF ACTS

<sup>34</sup> “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism<sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.<sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.<sup>37</sup> You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

<sup>39</sup> “We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross,<sup>40</sup> but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen.<sup>41</sup> He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” **Acts 10:34-43**

- A message God sent to the people of Israel that went viral
- Peace through Jesus Christ
- Jesus was anointed by God, did powerful, liberating works.
- God was with him
- We saw it with our eyes
- They killed him on a cross.
- God raised him from the dead, and he was seen!
- He gave us this story to tell!
- God appointed him judge of the living and the dead.
- His life and ministry were foretold by the prophets
- Everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins...

### 4 GOSPELS

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” **John 20:30–31** (see 21:25)

**John 4: The Woman at the well** (John 4:1-30; 39-42)

The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”... Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” They came out of the town and made their way toward him. **Jn 4:25-26, 28-30**

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.” **John 4:39-42**

### Did Jesus preach the Gospel?

- I am the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6)
- I am the bread of life (6:48, 51)
- I am the light of the world (8:12)
- I am the resurrection and the life (11:25)

### Why’s this so important?

- **Trust the story.**
- It’s **easier to share his story** and how our story was hijacked into his greater story.
- **When you tell his story, he is present.**
- You don’t have to **maneuver people into an awareness of sin.**
- It makes **believing personal, not just transactional.**