

Everlasting Gospel Bible Studies

Lesson 1

THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL



With so many religions and churches in the world, it would be easy to despair of discovering the truth about God and salvation. Some have concluded that all religion is fabrication. Others have accepted the idea that all religions lead to heaven. But neither of these beliefs is supported by the Bible.

Jesus told His disciples that His gospel (literally good news) will be proclaimed worldwide before He returns to take His faithful people to live with Him. In the book of Revelation this good news is called the everlasting gospel (Revelation 14:6). God does have a distinct and special gospel, and any variation from it is a deception which will lead men and women to eternal destruction. When we discover the church which knows and teaches the everlasting gospel, we have found the church to which all God's faithful people will belong just before Jesus comes.

INTRODUCTION

1. What is the power of the true gospel, and for whom? Romans 1:16

2. What is the condemnation of those who preach and teach a false gospel? Galatians 1:6-9; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4

Note: There is one gospel alone that leads to salvation; but there are many false teachings, all leading to destruction. It is essential that we seek and find the one true gospel.



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3. When Jesus answered the question of His disciples concerning the signs of the end of the world, what sign did He give as the last?
Matthew 24:14

Note: It will be noted that Jesus did not say "a gospel," but rather "this gospel." He referred to a very specific and definite gospel. The beauty of the Bible is that if we diligently search, we will find our questions answered elsewhere in the Bible if not in the original passage. This truism is amply demonstrated in the gospel to which Jesus refers here.

4. What does John call the gospel which will be taken to the world?
Revelation 14:6

Note: Chapter 14 of Revelation deals with the events which will take place just before the end of the world, for later in the chapter, Jesus is seen returning to "harvest" the world. Revelation 14:14

- 5. What are the four messages of the everlasting gospel? Revelation 14:7**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Note: Verses 6, 8, and 9 show three successive angels with God's final messages to the people of the earth. True to God's loving character, they begin with the good news which is the subject of these studies. The everlasting gospel proclaims that each person may rid himself of sin through the power of Jesus, and may rid himself of guilt for past sins through the mercy of God. It tells us that the sin and misery of the world is nearly at an end, and that we may join the winning side in the conflict which has beset the world since its first inhabitants fell from their allegiance to God. This first angel's message will be our outline for study in this and future lessons. It merits our special attention and is easily memorized. Notice that each phrase is twice the length of the previous one, having 2, 4, 8, and 16 words. The four phrases serve as headings in the following pages.

~ NOTES ~

[illegible]

17. How may we worship the Creator? John 4:23-24; Psalm 96:9

18. Especially when should we worship the Creator? Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 66:23

Note: The Sabbath was given as the day of special worship to remind all of us regularly that God created the heavens and the earth. As we worship Him on His holy Sabbath day, we acknowledge His sovereignty in our life. Our appointment with God for Sabbath worship will continue even in heaven.

SUMMARY

The everlasting gospel centres upon Christ, who alone can give us strength to overcome every temptation of Satan. This gospel is to be known, to be believed, to be lived, and it is to be shared with all the inhabitants of the world. It provides us with the understanding of how to live healthy and happy lives. It reveals to us a Saviour who died for our salvation and it teaches us how to worship Him in the true beauty of living lives wholly dedicated to Him. It establishes for us a day of worship in honour of His creatorship and rulership in our lives.

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

I truly love Jesus and want to learn more about the everlasting gospel that will prepare me for His soon return.

Signed: _____

A. FEAR GOD

6. What four meanings of "fear God" are found in: Deuteronomy 6:2; 8:6; 10:12-13?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Note: In the Scriptures, the term "fear God" often refers to a faith in God that is immovable. Such faith causes us to trust Him so fully that we are willing to obey His leadings, His requirements, and His commandments, realizing that they provide a more abundant life for us now, and prepare us for that entrance into eternal life with God..

7. How did Abraham show that he feared God? Genesis 22:12 (22:1-14); Hebrews 11:17-19

Note: Abraham's life is the subject of much of the book of Genesis and only a brief introduction is offered here. Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were well into their eighties and childless, when God promised Abraham that he would be the father of great nations. His son Isaac was not born until Abraham was nearly one hundred years old. Isaac was a robust teenager when God told Abraham to sacrifice him on an altar in a distant land. Abraham's faith was that God would fulfill His promise to make Abraham the father of many nations through Isaac. He could not see, in his human vision, how God would accomplish His promise if Isaac were dead, but he showed his faith by doing unquestioningly what God had commanded. You may read this portion of the story in Genesis chapter 22.

8. How is it possible to obey God in every way? I Corinthians 10:13; 1 John 1:9; Hebrews 7:25; Philippians 4:13

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

B. GIVE GLORY TO HIM

9. In what way may our actions reflect glory to God? Matthew 5:16

Note: The highest calling given us in Scripture is for us to glorify God. He who is all-glorious created us in His image, and longs to see His perfect character reproduced and shining forth from His children.. This thought may be seen illustrated in Hebrews 1:3, where Christ our Example is the brightness of His glory and the express image (Greek charakter) of his person.

10. In what ways may we reflect His character in the care of our bodies? 1 Corinthians 10:31

Note: Just as we do not want our children to endanger or corrupt their bodies, God is interested in our safety and health. We honour Him when we obey the laws of healthful living and take prudent care of our bodies.

11. In what way may we glorify God in our thoughts and our words? Psalm 86:12; Psalm 35:18; Romans 15:6

Note: We have seen how we can "give glory to Him": in behaving so that others see His character in us and glorify Him; in honouring Him in our use of food and drink and the mundane things of life; and in telling of the wondrous things He has done for us.

C. THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT

12. When are we to be called to account for the life we live here? 2 Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 12:36-37; 2 Timothy 4:1; Acts 24:25

Note: We can see that this judgment takes place before Jesus returns. If we claim Christ's salvation, that claim must be judged before His return, for He brings His rewards with Him (Revelation 22:12, Isaiah 40:10). This subject is studied carefully in later lessons.

13. What is Jesus willing to do for His faithful people? Luke 19:10; Hebrews 7:25; Daniel 12:1

Note: Michael is one of the many names of Jesus. This identity will be studied in a later lesson.

14. In favour of whom is judgment given? Daniel 7:22?

Note: The term "to the saints" (KJV) means "in favour of the saints." In the judgment God's people are vindicated, and as a result they will receive the kingdom.

Jesus is truly wonderful to us. He is willing to stand in our place in the judgment pleading His blood to atone for the sins of this man or this woman. To all who have confessed, and, in the power of Christ, forsaken their sins, His perfect life stands in place of their sin-marred life, and judgment is given in their favour.

D. WORSHIP THE CREATOR

15. Who created the heavens and the earth? John 1:1-3; Ephesians 3:9; Psalm 33:6-9

16. Why is He worthy of our worship? Revelation 4:11; Revelation 16:5; Revelation 11:17