The Gospel

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

Few are given to know the truth regarding the mystery of the kingdom of God. The words of Scripture hide the truth in plain sight, and only those whom the Lord opens their ears and eyes can see <u>the mystery</u>.

Mar 4:11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know **the mystery** of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all *these* things are done in parables:

We spend years searching the Scriptures, gleaning knowledge, and yet we readily miss the real power and mystery of godliness. A day comes when the Living Word, the Lord comes to **our flesh**, and we are awakened to the life-changing truth.

1Ti 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: <u>God was manifest in the flesh [YOU]</u>, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Jesus Christ came preaching the Gospel, which has become the mission of all the Lord's disciples since Pentecost. Preaching the Gospel has a deeper, more impactful meaning than just proclaiming the "good news" of salvation through Jesus Christ. To be delivered from our sinful ways, we need the second coming of Christ with the fire that begins to change our hearts.

Joh 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is

expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Joh 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Here, the promise was spoken in the prophets.

Eze 36:27 And I will put my spirit [my commands] within you, and <u>cause you</u> to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

The Living Commandments

The Spirit of Christ, His living and active Word, is given in the fullness of time for every man. Thus begins our baptism by the fire of the living Word [The Grace], which is judging us in the last day.

Heb 4:12 ESV For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The Father's commands are alive in Christ, and so it is for us, His Christ.

Joh 6:57 NKJV As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me [My Commands] will live because of Me.

The Scriptures show that many walk away from Christ when told they need to eat [obey] the commandments. Christ becomes an affront to the wants and desires of flesh and carnal minds. The living God and His Word, meaning the commandments, are the fire that takes root within God's

temple. This is the Gospel.

2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of **the living God**; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The Lord's people are set apart and have been separated unto the Gospel by the Spirit of holiness. We are being raised from the spiritually dead by the living commandments that live within us. The commandments are what awaken us to righteousness and brings us up from the dead. This is our newness of life.

Rom 6:5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in <u>the likeness</u> of his resurrection:

Jesus Christ **is the resurrection**, meaning His commandments are what is, was, and will be resurrected in us in the times appointed.

Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

Joh 11:26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

While all Scripture is good to make us wise unto salvation, it is specifically THE COMMANDMENTS of the Lord that are eternal life. As Christ is, so are His people [1Jo 4:17]. As the Lord is sent by the Father, He also sends us to do the same [Joh 20:21]. What did Christ do? The Lord speaks what the Father gives Him to speak, which are the Father's commandments.

Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the

Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

Joh 12:50 And I know that <u>his commandment</u> is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

This truth has always been there; we just cannot see it until the Lord prepares us and sends us forth as His flaming ministers.

Psa 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: **for all thy commandments** are righteousness.

The way to the tree of life is through the Lord's commandments. The angels of God, His Elect, guard the way and hold the swords and minister to those whom the Lord draws to Himself [The Christ, His Body]. The commandments are the tree of life, now taking root in our hearts.

Gen 3:24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Rev 22:14 Blessed are they that **do his commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The truth is twisted by carnal men throughout the ages. Nobody is saving themselves by the strength of their flesh. It is the Spirit of God, working holiness within by raising up the commandments in us, His holy temple. The Holy Spirit that is given is the Spirit of Holiness; it is the commandments that are making us holy and raising us from the dead.

Rom 1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power,

according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

The Spirit teaches us, working holiness within through His incorruptible commandments that are mighty Words of power.

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth** through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. [within us]

The simplicity of the Gospel bringing salvation was always there, awaiting the Lord to open the eyes of our understanding to take hold of it. When we look at these fiery words, we are being saved. This is how we partake of the power of His resurrection as Christ is being formed within. We endure this process to the end, having no confidence in the flesh. The power of the commandments is doing the work, not our flesh.

Php 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Php 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

We are hated by all flesh when we preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified. When we speak of the resurrection, we are speaking of the raising up of Christ, His commandments, within us. It is for our stance on the resurrection, meaning our stance on the commandments, that we are being spoken of as evil. We are called into question by the religious scribes and rulers of Israel, as was Paul.

Act 24:21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, **Touching the resurrection of the dead**, I am called in question by you this day.

The real trials and the persecution promised to those in Christ come when we believe and preach the Gospel, which is the Word of Commandments. Then the fire gets hot and we are being purified as we endure to the end. The living commandments within us are the roots needed to endure otherwise weak flesh readily falls away when tested.

Mar 4:17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or **persecution ariseth for the word's sake**, immediately they are offended.

The Gospel is Christ, and the coming of His Word to live and dwell within us. It is this Gospel that we are given the faith to believe, which is saving us as we strive with the Body.

Php 1:27 Only <u>let your conversation</u> be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind <u>striving</u> together for the faith of the gospel;

This Gospel, being the living commandments taking root in our hearts is a profound yet simple truth. It is a stunning revelation when our eyes are opened to see the truth. Let's review some Scriptures that speak to the Gospel, and may your eyes be enlightened to see the commandments as the centerpiece.

It is for the sake of the Gospel that we are losing our

lives. Said another way, it is because of the commandments of the Lord that we lay down our old life to minister to His Body.

Mat 16:25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake <u>and</u> <u>the gospel's</u>, the same shall save it.

The Gospel is the power unto salvation: It is the commandments of the Lord, the living Word, planted within us, that is the fire that saves us. The fire is what judges, chastens, and remakes all things.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the **power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he **power** to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

It is the election that are given the faith to believe and to whom He comes to make His abode with the living Word, the commandments ruling in the kingdom of God. This is the power of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit.

1Th 1:4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

1Th 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

1Th 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

When the commandments of the Lord take root in our hearts, Christ is come in our flesh, and the morning star arises. This is the power of God unto salvation that begins when judgment comes on us in the last day [today].

2Th 1:10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

2Th 1:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith <u>with power</u>:

It is known as the Gospel of Grace:

Act 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

We are saved by this grace [judgment] that comes by way of the commandments that burn up everything that defiles His Temple.

Tit 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

Tit 2:12 Teaching [chastening] us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

The implanted commandments are the two-edged sword that executes the grace of God in our lives. It is the fire that seasons us like salt.

Mar 9:49 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.

The gospel of Christ is the blessing: The good news is Christ and when we embrace His words, we are being saved and are blessed.

Rom 15:29 And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fullness of **the blessing of the gospel of Christ**.

The blessing of the Lord is spiritual, not of the flesh, and is received when <u>His commandments take root</u> in our heaven (mind).

Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with **all spiritual blessings** <u>in heavenly places</u> in Christ:

The Gospel is to be preached. Our preaching is teaching and has its focus on the Lord's commandments. The Lord will give the increase in due time to those destined to receive it.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in my name: [my commandments, my fire]

Mat 28:20 **Teaching them to observe all things** whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

We preach Christ and Him crucified, meaning **His commands**, not man's.

Mat 15:9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

The Gospel is to be believed: Many hear the Gospel but do not believe the Gospel as they lack the faith. Thus, the

power of God unto salvation does not do its work in this age. We are not entering into the rest of Christ unless we begin to believe His commandments with our whole heart.

Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Anytime we think of Jesus Christ, we need to be thinking of Him as the Living Word, not in the flesh. His living commandments come to make their abode with us in His holy temple, which temple we are.

2Co 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.

It is called the gospel of peace: The subtle confirmations of what the Gospel really means is throughout the Scriptures.

Rom 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach **the gospel of peace**, and bring glad tidings of good things!

It is only through the gospel that we enter into His rest, putting down our works and desires and becoming obedient.

Mat 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

The Gospel is to be obeyed. This attribute is a huge confirmation of what the Gospel truly represents. Good news indeed when we are given not only to believe the gospel but also to obey it. Believing and obeying are the same end product of our faith and require our suffering in the flesh.

Rom 10:16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

With the living commandments in our hearts, judgment has fallen upon the house of God. Thus, we know what happens when we disobey; the flaming fire that is His grace brings judgment and correction.

2Th 1:8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ:

The commandments of the Lord are the plumbline that judges us in our day of the Lord. That day is now if we belong to the household of God.

1Pe 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that **obey not the gospel** of God?

The Gospel is the power that establishes us as the mystery that it is the commandments which was hidden from us is now revealed. With new eyes, we see this mystery proclaimed everywhere in the Scriptures made known to us to bring about obedience to the faith.

Rom 16:25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

Rom 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

We are commanded to live the gospel and not only preach it. This means being a doer of the Word. We deceive ourselves and are hypocrites when we say and do different things. Doing the word is obeying the Gospel.

1Co 9:14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

Jas 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

We are warned about many false gospels, deceivers and false Christs. But there is only one true Gospel that Paul preached.

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ <u>unto another</u> gospel:

Paul preached the Gospel and did not baptize many people. Paul spent little time teaching doctrines and the history of the Scriptures. The baptism of John the Baptist, which we experience, brings us doctrine and repentance, but a second baptism, the one of fire, which changes our hearts, is necessary for salvation. This became Paul's focus, and likewise, now our focus in ministering.

1Co 1:17 For Christ sent me **not to baptize**, **but to preach the gospel**: not with wisdom of words [spewing knowledge], lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

Paul preached the cross, meaning dying daily in the

devouring fire of the Lord's commandments, laying down our old life. Paul preached Christ (and His Christ) crucified, focusing on the power of God through the living commandments. To those focused on knowledge [the Jews], this is a stumbling block, and to the carnally minded [the Greeks], it is foolishness.

1Co 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

1Co 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

False gospels do not focus on the cross, the sufferings, the loss, the afflictions, the persecution for the Word and the many tribulations we endure to become a living sacrifice. False gospels do not give glory or focus on the commandments of the Lord, but rather glorify men and profit the flesh, being about the riches of knowledge.

<u>Dwelling in the Fire:</u>

Believing in the indwelling commandments is our dwelling in the fire that is the Word. This is how we are being remade into a new creation.

Heb 12:29 For our God is a consuming fire.

The commands of Christ, the living Word within, is the devouring fire that makes its abode with the people of God. One can study the law and the prophets for years as the Scribes and Pharisees did, and we have in our former fellowships. We can understand all the history and the types and shadows of the Old Testament and still not know the Lord. And here is why.

Joh 5:38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for

whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.

Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Joh 5:40 And ye will not come to me [my Word, my commandments], that ye might have life.

Flesh does not like thinking or talking about the commandments; it is simply too hot. Flesh wants to study or talk about everything else. Yet our abiding in the Lord's commandments, the living Word, is the way we attain eternal life and receive the desired overcoming. The living Word, rising within us becomes the guiding light, making our paths straight.

Psa 119:105 Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

If we are in the commandments [Christ], the living Word is judging us now. When we err from His ways, the fire gets hotter when judgment has come upon the house of the Lord. Thus, our hearts are being established with grace and not with meats (doctrine, knowledge)

Rom 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

In the end, all that matters <u>is a new creation</u> as knowledge and prophecy are passing away in due time. Paul wrote often on this singular focus of outcome.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, **he is a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

We are admonished to examine ourselves when we fall so we can hasten the appearing of Christ in all our behavior.

2Co 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

When the mystery of this Gospel is revealed in our hearts, we go from warming ourselves by the fire of the Word to being cast directly into the fire. That day is today, as the morning star, the light and fire that is the Spirit of Jesus Christ, His commandments takes hold of our hearts. The Son (the commandments) has risen upon our earth and in the kingdom of God

Rev 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Now we are being resurrected from the spiritually dead. It is the commandments that arise in our hearts. It is the beginning of the blessed and first holy resurrection. The fullness is yet to come, but we have a powerful deposit right now.

2Pe 1:19 NKJV And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns **and the morning star rises in your hearts**

Paul said the same thing more plainly to the Romans. Our obedience, which is the love of God is being shed in our hearts. This is the work of the living and active commandments, the Word of God, that brings salvation.

Rom 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost

which is given unto us.

This day star is the power of God bringing salvation. We struggle to overcome, yet are admonished to be patient and hold fast until this star, the commandments of Christ, arise in our hearts.

Rev 2:25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

Rev 2:28 And I will give him the morning star.

It is in the Lord's Body, also known as His holy mountain, and our fellowships with brethren, where the words of Jesus Christ are elevated, and we are looking to Him. This is abiding in the Lord's courts, and it is a far better place to be than anywhere else. It is here in Zion, the holy city and the congregation of the saints, where we abide in devouring fire that is judging us and thereby taking away our sins.

Psa 84:9 Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed. [Christ and His Christ]

Psa 84:10 For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Psa 84:11 For the LORD God [via His commandments] is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

The Gospel is good news, but not to the flesh, as the Words of Christ are Spirit. The good news is the coming of Christ in us, the hope of glory. The Gospel is spoken of as a mystery, as few are given to see the truth with clarity in every generation. We are not worthy of the honor the Lord

has now given us to boldly preach these things. Yet we cannot stay quiet in the face of the Lord revealing the mystery of His Gospel. Our focus is now turned to the Gospel as we minister among the saints by proclaiming the mystery of the Gospel that has been hidden for ages.

Col 1:25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

Col 1:26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Col 1:28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

The one true Gospel is only received by the revelation of Jesus Christ. We preach it to those prepared to hear it, and **only the Lord gives the increase.** Like all truth and good gifts, they come from the Lord. Only the Lord can open eyes to see the depth and breadth of the good news that is His Gospel.

Gal 1:11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

Gal 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Receive ye the Gospel. We labour and suffer reproach for trusting in these commandments, the true Gospel of the living God.

The mystery of God is finished. The voice of the seventh angel is beginning to sound.