21T14e Gospel of Jesus (Research Project) - Part 5

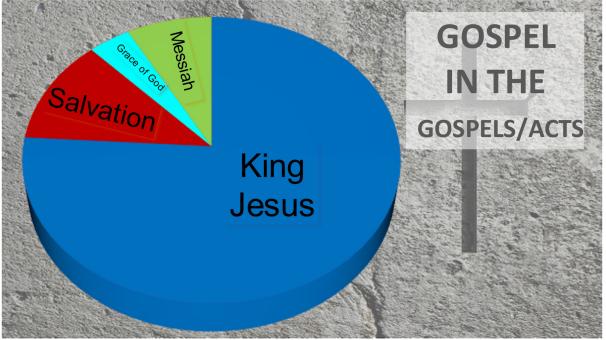
Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA coffee table. So, get your coffee or tea and Get comfortable so we can talk.

We have been doing a research project on a simple question. What was the Gospel or Good News or in the Greek Euangelion, that Jesus taught.?

We have been opening the Bible and see what it says. We searched three English Bible translations for the word "gospel" or phrase "good news" using <u>www.blueletterbible.org</u>. King James (KJV) Version, New International Version (NIV) and New Living Translation (NLT)

We finished reviewing all texts starting with Jesus' spoken words in the Gospels and Acts last time.

So being an engineer, I crunched the numbers. If I remove the non-specific verses and verses not about the Gospel of Jesus. Then group these occurrences into categories of 1) King Jesus, 2) Salvation, 3) Grace of God and 4) Messiah, I get this chart. The vast majority is about King Jesus, 76%.

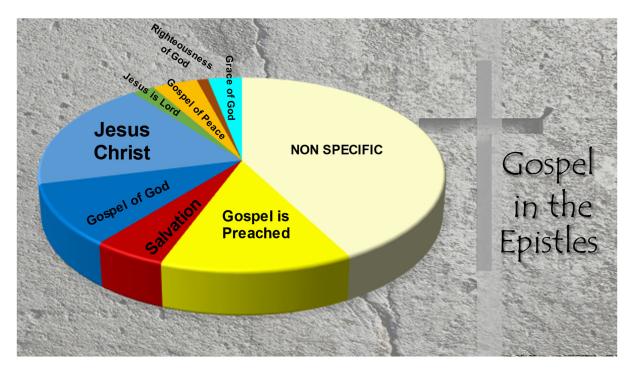


So the Gospel of Jesus as it is recorded in the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles is that Jesus preached "the Kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe the good news." Mark1:15 Jesus brought the Kingdom to earth making the kingdom available to all of us.

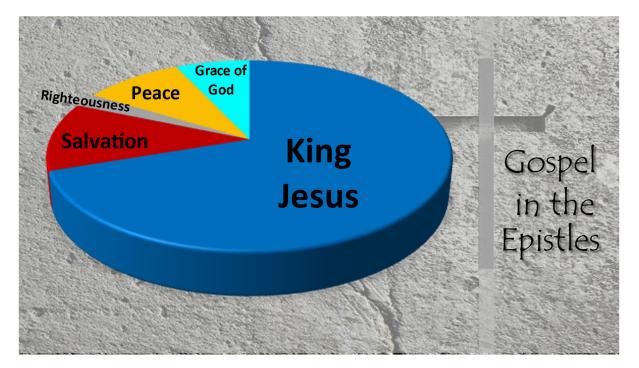
Today we are going to continue our research project.

Next let's look at the Epistles. We identified 97 verses with either "gospel" or "good news". Obviously, it would take many many sessions to look at these in detail. I'm going to make my spreadsheet available to anyone on our website so you can look them up for yourself. There are links to the blueletterbible.org for quick reference and context comparisons.

I crunched the numbers. Here is a chart that shows the categories of Gospel occurrences in the Epistles. 41% was non-specific and 20% was Jesus Christ or Jesus is Lord and so on.



If I remove the non-specific and verse not about the Gospel of Jesus. These categories can be further grouped into five, 1) King Jesus, 2) Salvation, 3) Grace of God, 4) Righteousness and, 5) Peace, When I did this the chart becomes this. The vast majority is about King Jesus, 70%.



Now there are many that want to argue about which is the Gospel. But remember the word Gospel just means Good news. So the Gospel of the Kingdom and the Gospel of Grace which is prominent in the letters from Paul in the bible are both good news and not in conflict in any way. But the Gospel Jesus preached was that of the Kingdom of God was being made available to everyone right now through Him.

So what exactly is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God?

I want to point you to two resources I use a lot. First is the Bible Project. They have video of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. I have included a link on our website. And the other is Dallas Willard. Now Dallas has gone to be with the Lord. But His book titled "Divine Conspiracy" is a must read. I will include a link to one of his lecture on the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. It's a very powerful message.

We live in a dark fallen world that desperately needs the light. We as Christians must be that light to point to Jesus. Being Christian is not about having a ticket to heaven when you die. Salvation is very important but you are still here for a reason. I believe we are called to live the "Kingdom" life now, right here on earth. As Christ followers we are citizens of heaven. Our eternal life started when we accepted Jesus as our savior but it did not stop there. We are called to be a light to this dark world by showing the world what living in the Kingdom is all about. I like how Tim McKee of the Bible project puts it. It is an upside down kingdom. It's not about our rescue which is Good news for sure, but it's about answering the call of Jesus to live in the kingdom where we love and serve others sacrificially, to show the world Jesus through our actions and while we are living here.

Jesus made it clear when told us the greatest commandment in Mark 12:30-31 ³⁰And you must <u>love the</u> <u>Lord your God</u> with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' ³¹The second is equally important: '<u>Love your neighbor as yourself.</u>' No other commandment is greater than these."

I like the way Tim McKee of the Bible project sums this up in his videos on Luke and Acts. I'll summarize his conclusion from Acts 13-28. "The Good News is how God's Kingdom came on earth as in heaven through Jesus & His spirit & His Church"

Examples of Faithfulness to King Jesus;

- Sharing the Good News in Word & Action
- Forming diverse communities where people are equal
- Trusting in the power & Guidance of the Spirit"

Or as Jesus says in Matthew 28:18 ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

I heard the Gospel summarized in two words "King Jesus" king of kings and lord or lords. The Good News is we are invited to be followers of the King of kings. As Followers we get lots of benefits for following our Lord including Providing our Needs, Peace, Forgiveness, Assurance, Hope, and yes Salvation.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father. Thank you for this time. Thank you for the Good news that we now have access to you and the Kingdom of Heaven because of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

Help us not to be confused by the many voices and opinions. May we stay focused on your word Lord.

Use us Lord to show this world of darkness the light that points to you Jesus. We pay in your name Jesus, Amen.

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think.

See you next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.

LINKS

 Watch: Gospel of the Kingdom Biblical Theme Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: New Testament Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Matthew 1-13 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Matthew 14-28 Bible Book Overview Video Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Matthew 14-28 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Mark Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Luke 1-9 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Luke 10-24 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Acts 1-12 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Acts 13-28 Bible Book Overview Video | BibleProject™

 Watch: Luke Acts Book Collection Video Series | BibleProject™

Dallas Willard - What is the Kingdom of God? - YouTube

John Ortberg The Kingdom of God Pepperdine University 2014 - YouTube