



LESSON 12

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

AND OUR RESURRECTION



1 Corinthians 2:2

**For I determined to know nothing while I was with you except
Jesus Christ and him crucified.**



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**Jesus Christ and Him Risen
Jesus Christ and Him Alive**

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?



WHAT IS **THE GOSPEL**?

IS **THE GOSPEL** JESUS CHRIST
AND HIM CRUCIFIED?





1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 "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.

2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that **Christ died** for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.....

Paul said, as we read here, that the gospel is:

- **Jesus died.**
 - **Jesus was buried.**
 - **Jesus arose.**
- All according to Scripture.**

But Paul did not stop there; the Scriptures did not stop there.

- **Jesus also ascended to heaven.**
 - **God also sent the Holy Spirit down here.**
- All according to Scripture.**

And:

- **Jesus will soon return again and set up the Kingdom.**
- All according to Scripture.**

All of this is part of the gospel of the Kingdom, as Paul and the Bible teach.



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1 Corinthians 15:50-52

50 What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that **our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever.**

51 But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. **We will not all die, but we will all be transformed!**

52 It will happen in a moment, in the **blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown.** For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died **will be raised to live forever.** And we who are living will also be transformed.

Maranatha. (Come, Lord Jesus)

Our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. Therefore, we need a resurrection where we are clothed with new eternal bodies.

Other translations say this:

"I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable."
(NIV)

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither does corruption inherit incorruption."
(KJV)





John 15:50-52

3 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

4 “What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?”

5 Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.

6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

7 So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’

We cannot reduce Christ or the Gospel to just a few verses. If we could, God would have simply provided us with a few verses rather than the whole Bible.

The Gospel and the cross are not “only” about the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The Gospel and the cross also include the return of Christ and Him setting up of the kingdom (restoring the kingdom back to Israel) here on earth.

Leaving out the return of Christ and the kingdom is the same as believing in and preaching a half-truth and, therefore, in many ways, a wrong Gospel.



If the Gospel was 1 Corinthians 15:2-4:

By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you... **that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...**'



If the gospel was the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, my question is:

What did they preach before the cross?

Remember, before the cross, they were also preaching the gospel.





Matthew 4:23

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Jesus, the Rock of David, will crush all kingdoms and set up the Kingdom of God. He is the seed of Abraham, the Son of David, the child that is born to us, and on His shoulders, the government will reign. All knees will bow down, and all will confess Jesus as Lord. You need to be born again, or you will not enter into that Kingdom.

This is the gospel of the Kingdom...



One day, all nations will stream to Jerusalem, to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob (Israel).

He who sits on David's throne will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples.

The nations will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.



**He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. He will reign from
David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and
upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time
on and forever.**



And after a time, God will make all things new and create a new heaven and earth where righteousness will dwell. God will walk among us, and we will finally see Him face to face. He will wipe every tear from our eyes, and there will be no more death and no more curse, as the old order of life has gone and everything has been made new.





1 Corinthians 2:2

**For I determined to know nothing while I was with you except
Jesus Christ and him crucified.**



1 Corinthians 1:7-8

"Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift **as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed** (*waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*) . He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you **will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.**"



1 Corinthians 2:2

For I determined to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

I want to know nothing else but Jesus crucified, the coming of our Lord, and the resurrection of the dead, where He will give those who belong to Him glorified bodies so we can enter the Kingdom.

Now we live for that day, being purified, ready, and set apart so that it does not come as a surprise.

Paul's Focus

Paul's and the other apostles' focus was **not only the cross**, meaning the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, but also **the return of Christ** and **the resurrection of you and me**.

The cross for them **did NOT** end with the resurrection of Christ but with the **return of Christ** and the **redemption of all things**.



Read from My Book, 412 Days:

"The day persecution truly sets in, we'll see a falling away like never before, maybe even as high as 80 to 95 percent of Christians. Why? Because people are not ready and don't have **deep roots** in their life with God.

We have **focused too much on this world** rather than the Kingdom to come.

We have been looking **backward** to the cross instead of looking **forward** to Jesus's return.



To look backward to the cross and what happened then doesn't help us **in the same way as looking forward to the return of Christ**. Jesus endured the cross by the reward set before Him. **Yes, the cross is our beginning**. But now we are on the road; we must fix our eyes on Jesus, **who is not hanging on the cross anymore**. He is sitting in heaven at God's right hand and will soon return to bring us our salvation. 'And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy **set before him** he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.' (Hebrews 12:1-2 NIV)"



Yes, the cross is the beginning...

BUT we must look forward to the return of Christ.



Why is the enemy so busy making us not look forward but only backward?

Busy with not understanding the day of the Lord?

The kingdom of God?

The kingdom of Israel, of which we, as Gentiles, are partakers in Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham?

Why?

So we will not endure to the end when hard times come?

So we don't preach the full Gospel?

And in the end, do we not enter because we have not been preparing ourselves?





**times of refreshing may come
he may send the Messiah**



Acts 3:19-21

- 19** Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out,
that **times of refreshing may come** from the Lord
- 20** and that **he may send the Messiah**, who has been appointed for
you—even Jesus.
- 21** Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore
everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

Jesus as Our Passover Lamb

- On the cross, Jesus became our Passover Lamb.
- Blood of the New Covenant:
 - 1 Corinthians 5:7: Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. **For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.**



Access to God

- **On the cross, Jesus grants us access to God.**
- **Hebrews 10:19-20: "Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body."**



Reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles

- **On the cross, Jesus reconciled Jews and Gentiles.**
- Ephesians 2:15-16: "By setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to **reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.**"



Disarming the Enemy

- On the cross, Jesus disarmed the enemy by His death.
- Hebrews 2:14-15: "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death **he might break the power of him who holds the power of death**—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."



But when we read about the cross and what God did there, we need to understand that the cross does not **only** symbolize the death and what happened there on the cross.

When the Bible talks about the cross, it also symbolizes everything that happened **after the cross**. For if what happened **after the cross did not happen, there would still be no salvation for us, even with Jesus dead on that cross**. If, for example, there will not be a resurrection three days later, the cross could not save us, and we will still be dead in our sins.





1 Corinthians 15:12-14

12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless, and so is your faith.



1 Corinthians 15:15-17

15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact, the dead are not raised.

16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.

17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost."

It is true that without Christ being raised, we will still be dead in our sins. The cross, without the resurrection, will not be complete. In the same way, the cross and His resurrection cannot do it without His return.

It is first at the return of Christ that He brings us our salvation, and everything is complete.





1 Corinthians 15:19-22

19 "If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the **firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.

21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.



1 Corinthians 15:23-26

23 But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, **when he comes**, those who belong to him.

24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power.

25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

26 **The last enemy to be destroyed is death."**

Did Jesus not destroy death on the cross? Yes and no.

Yes, in the sense that He paid the price there and conquered death. He won the victory.

But it is a no in the sense that death is not destroyed yet.

We will still die.

But one day, when He returns, He will finally complete it all by destroying death as the last enemy, and then—only then—there will be no more death.



Time for a break!



**The cross of Christ is our salvation.
Jesus is raised as the first fruit, and we now have
the deposit of our salvation, the Holy Spirit.
When Jesus returns, we will also be raised to new
life in Him.**

1. Jesus Died: We need to die to our sins (Repentance).

- **1 Peter 2:24:** "He himself bore our sins in his body **on the cross, so that we might die to sins** and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

2. Jesus Was Buried: We need to bury the old self we put to death when we repented. That is happening in the baptized where we are baptized into Christ.

- **Colossians 2:12-13:** "**Having been buried with him in baptism**, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead."



3. Jesus Rose Again: We need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, so the spirit can raise us up to a new life, as he rose up Jesus from the death.

Romans 8:11 And if the **Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead** is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** because of his Spirit who lives in you.



The cross is the **beginning** and
points to the time of the **true**
resurrection of all things





Philippians 3:18-21

18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, **many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.**

19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things.

20 **But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior** from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

21 He will take our **weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own**, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

Glorified Body: After His resurrection, Jesus appeared in a transformed, glorified state. This is described in the Gospels, where He could pass through walls and appear suddenly (John 20:19, 20:26).

The Resurrected Body: The glorified body is imperishable, immortal, and glorified. This contrasts with His earthly body, which was subject to suffering, pain, and death.

Born-again believers now have the seed of the Holy Spirit within us (a deposit until the redemption), **but one day**, when Jesus returns, it will finally be complete, and the redemption will happen. We will experience the resurrection and **receive glorified bodies** similar to Jesus's body.



1 Corinthians 15:36-40

36 How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

37 When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else.

38 But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body.

39 Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another.

40 There are also **heavenly bodies** and there are **earthly bodies**; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another.



1 Corinthians 15:41-44

41 The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. **The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;**

43 it is **sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;**

44 it is **sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.** If there is a **natural body**, there is also a **spiritual body**.

45 So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.



1 Corinthians 15:35

46 The spiritual did not come first, but **the natural**, and after that **the spiritual**.

47 The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven.

48 **As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven.**

49 And just as we have borne the **image of the earthly man**, so shall we bear **(One day when Jesus returns) the image of the heavenly man**.

Natural Body:

- It is sown in dishonor.
- It is sown in weakness.
- It is corruptible. (will die)

“Spiritual” Body:

- It is raised in glory.
- It is raised in power.
- It is incorruptible. (will live forever)





Hebrews 6:1-2

1 "Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,**
2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

Our foundation is:

- Repentance**
- Faith**
- Baptism in water**
- Baptism with the Holy Spirit (laying on of hands, praying for people)**

But also:

Resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.



Almost every church talks about the first two: repentance and faith, but some forget baptism in water. Even more leave out the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

However, you can attend churches your whole life and hear very little about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. We are speaking about your resurrection from the dead—not Christ's.

As all die with Adam, all will be raised with Christ— some to eternal life in God's kingdom, while others will be thrown into the lake of fire with Satan, the Antichrist, and the false prophet, as well as death and Hades.





Revelation 20 14-15

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

The gospel and the message of the cross is this:

Jesus, the Son of David and the Son of Abraham, died, was buried, and rose again. He ascended to heaven, sent the Holy Spirit down here, and is now sitting at God's right hand, waiting to come back and set up His kingdom here on earth (Your kingdom come).

Now, we need to die to sin, be buried in baptism, and rise up again by the Holy Spirit. (Right now, we have the deposit for that day)

However, our true resurrection has not happened yet and will first occur when the King returns. We will be raised up again and receive our inheritance—new bodies, a new heaven and earth, and eternal life. We have received a deposit of all of this—the Holy Spirit within us, who has made our spirit alive and helps us live in the hope we have in Christ, preparing us for that great and glorious day.

On that day, and not before, what JESUS paid for on the cross will be fully complete.

A gospel that **leaves out** the kingdom of God and the resurrection of the dead **is not** a biblical gospel.

Let us believe the whole truth, leaving nothing behind.

