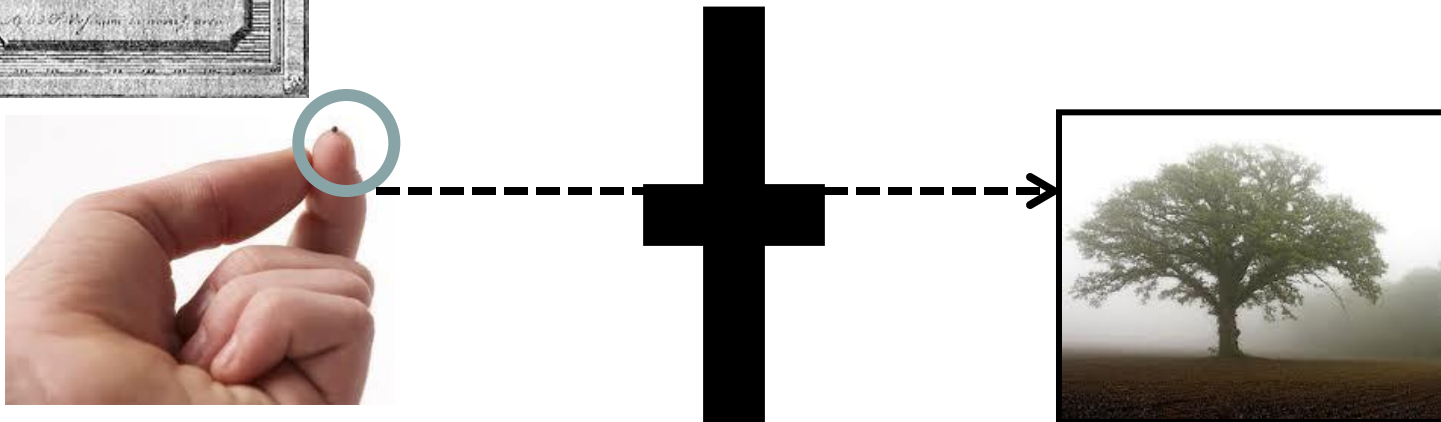


**Are you an agent of Change,
a Co-worker with and an ambassador
of God Almighty, as His Offspring?
In proclaiming the gospel?**



As some of your own poets have said, “We are his offspring” Acts 17: 28 Apostle Paul quoting a line from Phaenomena by the Greek poet Aratus of Soli (300- 235 BC)

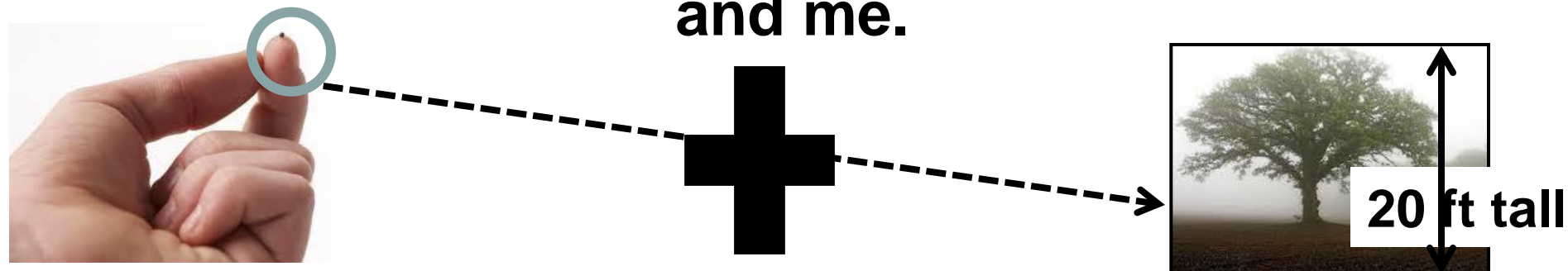


As agents of Change and Divine Co-workers as offsprings of God

Take home: We are here to share the gospel, to teach that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ: that this gospel will transform us from a mere small ~1-2 mm mustard seed to a gigantic 20 ft tree (**Mat 13:31-32**).

In turn we become co-laborers, co-workers in the vineyard with the Lord, ambassadors (**II Cor 5:20**).

Through the call of the gospel, God accomplishes the near impossible through human agents like you and me.



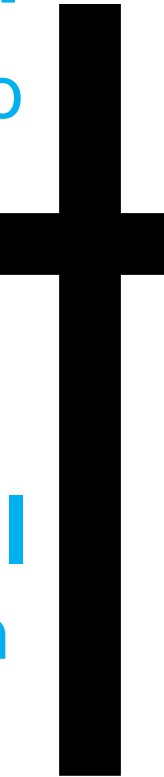
What is the Gospel?

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the **gospel**, because it **is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone** who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

I Cor 15:1-2,3-4

1 Now I make known to you, brethren, **the gospel** which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, **2 by which also you are saved**, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.



What is the Gospel?

I Cor 15:3-4 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, 4 and that **He was buried**, and that **He was raised** on the third day according to the Scriptures,

II Thess 1:7b,8 ...7b the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire **taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Gospel (death, burial resurrection of Christ) is God's power to save and must be obeyed: a life or death choice

The key question is:

Why do we need salvation?

**To answer that we need to
begin in the garden of Eden**

Why do we need salvation?

Gen 2:7,17; 3:19: made from dust, dying you will die;

Heb 9:27: We die once and after this judgment: no re-incarnation (also II Cor 5:10);

Isa 59:2; 64:6: Sin caused alienation from God; and
Our righteousness like filthy rags before God;

Romans 3:23: All have sinned and fall short of glory
of God;

James 2:26: Body without spirit is dead=fai~~th~~ - works.

Man

SPIRITUAL

DEATH

God

Ecl 12: 7 then the
dust will return to
the earth as it
was, and the
spirit will return to
God who gave it

Body

PHYSICAL

DEATH

Spirit

Aside of Anatomy of SIN(NING)

Mark 7:21,22

"For from within, out of the heart (kardia) of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications (porneiai **πορνείαι**), thefts, murders (1Jn 3:15 hater=murderer), adulteries (used with divorce and remarriage), 22 deeds of coveting (pleonexia **πονηρία**) and wickedness (poneria **πονηρία**), as well as deceit (dolos **δολος**), sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

KJV Lexicon

πορνείαι -porneia por-ni'-ah: harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively, idolatry -- fornication

πλεονεξία -pleonexia pleh-on-ex-ee'-ah: avarice, i.e. (by implication) fraudulency, extortion -- covetous(-ness) practices, greediness.

πονηρία -poneria pon-ay-ree'-ah: depravity especially malice; plots, sins -- iniquity, wickedness.

πονηρος -poneros pon-ay-ros': hurtful, i.e. evil; figuratively, calamitous; also (passively) ill, i.e. diseased; but especially (morally) culpable, i.e. derelict, vicious, facinorous; neuter (singular) mischief, malice, or (plural) [guilt](#);

δολος -dolos dol'-os: a trick (bait), i.e. (figuratively) wile -- craft, deceit, guile, subtility.

ασέλγεια -aselgeia as-elg'-i-a: licentiousness (sometimes including other vices) -- filthy, lasciviousness, wantonness.

Οφθαλμος -ophthalmos of-thal-mos': the eye; by implication, vision; figuratively, envy (from the jealous side-glance) -- eye, sight.

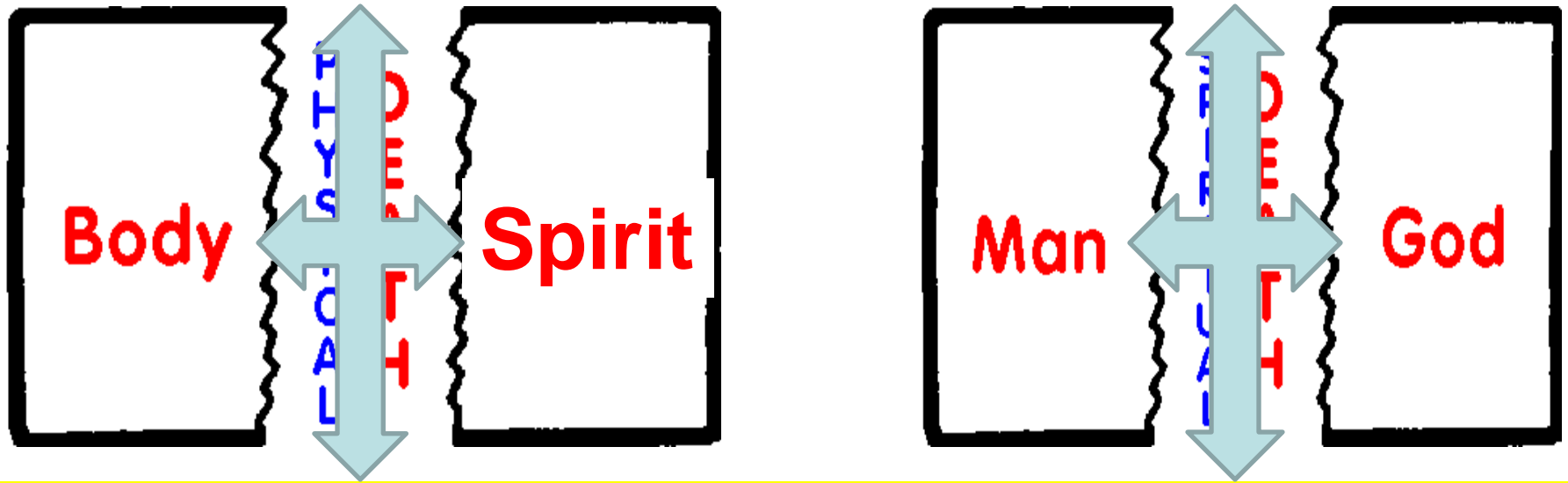
βλασφημία -blasphemia blas-fay-me'-ah: vilification (especially against God) -- blasphemy, evil speaking, railing.

υπερηφάνια -huperephania hoop-er-ay-fan-ee'-ah: haughtiness -- pride.;

Αφροσύνη -aphrosune af-ros-oo'-nay: senselessness, i.e. (euphemistically) egotism; (morally) recklessness -- folly, foolishly(-ness).

Gal 5:19-21 immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing

So as to “Why we need salvation?”



We have sin and grave problems

SIN: Law breaking, Disobedience because we want to be independent of God; master of our own fate/ship

Death: Sin leads to separation, both physical and spiritual

Christ: Only Mediator/Bridge | Tim 2:5

**How does God engineer
gospel encounters for
salvation of mankind?**

What Influences and Agencies **Does God employ for Salvation?**

Three Biblical Examples to show what God uses

1. Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:26-39
2. Saul/Paul Acts 9/22
3. Cornelius the centurion Acts 10/11

1. Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:5,26-39

Acts 8:5 *Philip* went down to a city *in Samaria* and *proclaimed the Messiah* there ...

26 And the *angel of the Lord spoke to Philip*, saying, Arise, and go toward the south to the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, which is desert. 27 And he arose and went: and, behold, *a man of Ethiopia*, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and *had come to Jerusalem for to worship*

**(Messenger) Angel sent to a preacher (Philip)
to go to a God-fearing seeker (Eunuch)**

1. Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:35-39

35Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.**36**As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look! Water! **What prevents me from being baptized?**”**37**[And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”]**38**And he ordered the chariot to stop; and **they both went down into the water**, Philip as well as the eunuch, and **he baptized him**.**39**When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the **eunuch** no longer saw him, but **went on his way rejoicing**.

1. Eunuch Acts 8-Summary

Philip Preached Jesus to Eunuch

What if Philip had disobeyed?

What if Eunuch had refused to listen to Philip?

Unavoidable conclusion:

Even if an angel from heaven appears and HS operates miraculously: a preacher is needed

We have to cooperate, we have to do a part of the work

That is why we are co-laborers with God. Christ ask us to pray that laborers be sent Mat 9:37,38

Rom 10:13-17 Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God

2. Acts 9/22 *The Conversion of Saul*

Acts 9:1-6

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying to him, Saul, Saul, why persecute you me? 5 And he said, Who are you, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom you persecute: it is hard for you to kick against the pricks. 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what will you have me to do? And the Lord said to him, Arise, and go into the city, **and it shall be told you what you must do**

2. Acts 9/22 Conversion of Paul

Acts 9:10-18 10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 And the Lord *said* to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying, 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, ..; 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house, ..." 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized.

Christ sent a preacher Ananias to Saul a God-fearing seeker to tell him what he needed to do to make peace with God, to obey. See Paul's account in Ch22

2. Acts 22 *The Conversion of Saul:* **in Paul's own words**

12“A certain Ananias, a man who was devout by the standard of the Law, *and* well spoken of by all the Jews who lived ... **15** ‘For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and *heard*. **16**‘*Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.*’

Why was Ananias sent to Saul?

Was Saul saved during the 3 days he was praying?

If he was why did Ananias asked him to get up be baptized to wash his sins? Let us turn to #3

3. Acts 10: Conversion of Cornelius

Acts 10 1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. 2 He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. 3 One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!”

4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked. The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.’”

**Messenger-Angel- sent to God-fearing
seeker Roman Soldier, commander of 100**

3. Acts 10: Conversion of Cornelius

Acts 10 5Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. 6He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea.”

14He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’ 19 While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three^a men are looking for you. 20 So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.”

Spirit contacts Peter to do what? ...

3. Acts 10: Conversion of Cornelius

Acts 10 21 Peter went down and said to the men, “I’m the one you’re looking for. Why have you come?”

22 The men replied, “We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say.”

Then Peter said, 47 “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

3. Acts 10: Conversion of Cornelius

Acts 11 11“Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. 12 The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house. 13 He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. 14 He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’

Holy Spirit instructs preacher Peter to go to God-fearing seeker to tell Cornelius what he must do to obey to be saved. Other examples?



Examples of Conversions

		HEAR THE GOSPEL	BELIEVE FAITH	REPENT OF SINS	CONFESS CHRIST	BAPTISM
1	DAY OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:36-42	HEARD 2:37		REPENT 2:37-38		BAPTIZED 2:38-41
2	SAMARITANS ACTS 8:5-13	HEARD 8:6	BELIEVED 8:12			BAPTIZED 8:12
3	SIMON ACTS 8:13	HEARD 8:6	BELIEVED 8:13			BAPTIZED 8:13
4	ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH ACTS 8:36-41	HEARD 8:35			CONFESSED 8:37	BAPTIZED 8:38
5	SAUL - (PAUL) ACTS 9:1-9; 22:6-16; 26:12-19	HEARD 22:16				BAPTIZED 9:18
6	CORNELIUS ACTS 10:25-48	HEARD 10:33	BELIEVED 10:43			BAPTIZED 10:48
7	LYDIA ACTS 16:13-15	HEARD 16:13-14	BELIEVED 16:14			BAPTIZED 16:15
8	PHILIPPIAN JAILOR ACTS 16:34	HEARD 16:32	BELIEVED 16:31			BAPTIZED 16:33
9	THE CORINTHIANS ACTS 18:8	HEARD 18:8	BELIEVED 18:8			BAPTIZED 18:8
10	12 MEN AT EPHESUS ACTS 19:1-7	HEARD 19:5				BAPTIZED 19:5
	PREACHING Romans 10:14 Galatians 1:6-9	HEAR Mark 4:23 Acts 10:22	FAITH Hebrews 11:6 Hebrews 5:8-9	REPENTANCE Luke 13:3, 5 Acts 2:38	CONFESSION Romans 10:10 Matthew 10:32-33	BAPTISM 1 Peter 3:21 Barnes' Bible Charts

What is the Gospel? Power of God to Save

Gospel is God's power to save, and it involves death/burial/ressurrection of Christ, and must be obeyed

Rom 1:16, I Cor 15:1-8, II Thes 1:8; Rom 6:3-5,17

Why do we need to be saved? Sin & Death

We have sin and death problem and Jesus the Christ is the only bridge/mediator because he is the I AM John 8:24,58,59; I Tim 2:5

How does God engineer gospel encounters for salvation of mankind? Human Agents

Uses His Holy Spirit and human preachers of the gospel: Ethiopian Eunuch (Philip), Roman Cornelius (Peter), Jewish Paul (Ananias) **Mat 28:18-20**

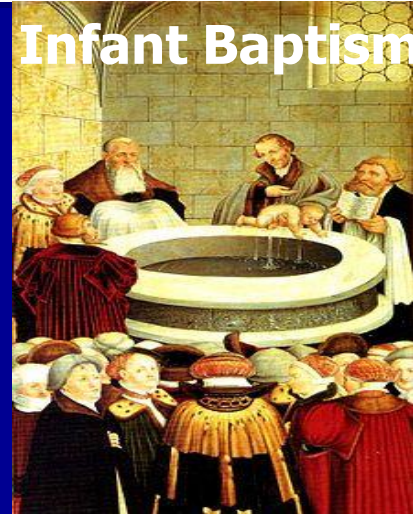
The Gospel Of Christ—Warnings



Have you heard of the
Four
Spiritual Laws?



Infant Baptism



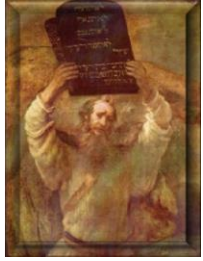
Beware of different gospels Galatians 1:6-9

6 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

What is Christ to you and what will you do with Christ?

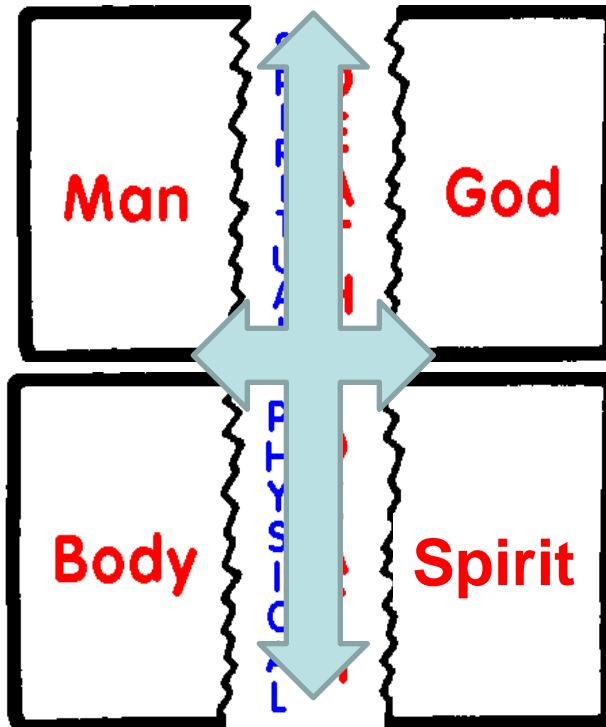
The facts of the gospel...

- Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and raised from the dead! 1Co 15:1-8
- Jesus is both Lord and Christ Mat 28:18, Ac 2:33-34,36
 - Jesus will return again Ac 1:9-11
 - Jesus will judge the world Ac 17:30-31



Have you obeyed the gospel of our Lord?

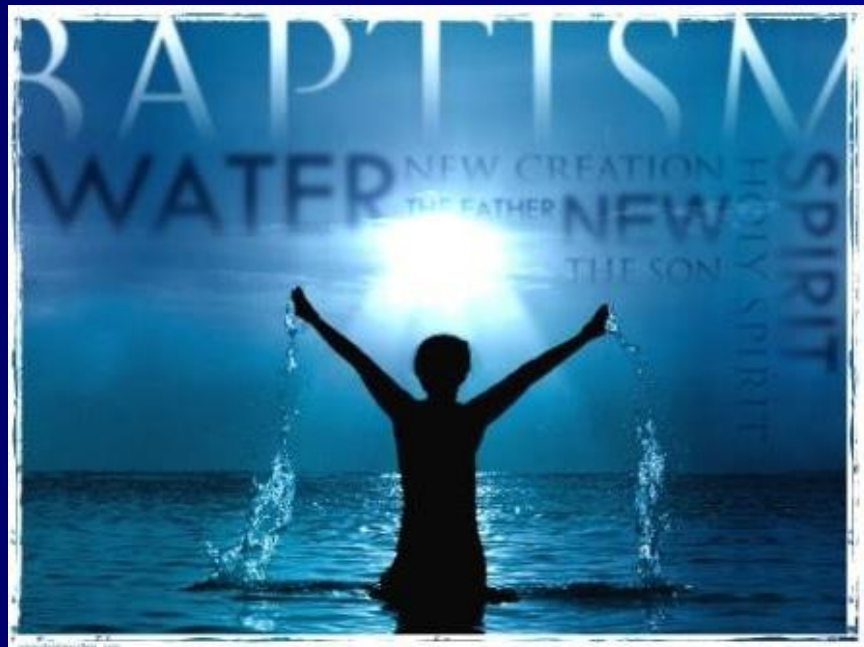
- Believe,
- repent,
- confess, and be
- baptizied for
- remission of sin
- and gift of holy spirit



GOSPEL OBEYED Romans 6:3-5; 17



**If you haven't obeyed the Gospel Of Christ,
why are you waiting, what are you waiting for?**



“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.” and you will receive His enabling Spirit **Acts 22:16; Act 2:38b**

The night is approaching when we cannot work-are you a faithful co-worker?

II Cor 5:19 ... God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself ...; and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be you reconciled to God

John 9:4 As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

Are you a co-laborer, a co-worker, an ambassador for Christ? If not why not start today?

