

The Gospel!

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

– Revelation 14:6-7 –

Our text is astounding. In the midst of God's age-ending, world-cleansing, curse-eradicating wrath, He remembers mercy – even to the point of publishing the Good News by the supernatural voice of a member of the heavenly host, offering recalcitrant mankind one final chance to flee for refuge to the hope He has laid before them. The New Testament brings out such texture and hue of this “everlasting gospel” that it is impossible to miss why those who do not obey its gracious offer are punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord (1 Thess. 1:8). Let us relish for a few moments the many facets of the Good News that has changed our lives and eternity as believers...

This Gospel is the Triune Godhead's offer to mankind. It is characterized as the Gospel of God, of His Son, of His Christ, and of the Holy Ghost (1 Thess. 1:5; 2:2; 3:2). It is the Good News of an everlasting Kingdom (Mt. 9:35) which is universal in its expanse and scope. The invitation to this Kingdom is extended to the entire world (Mt. 24:14) and carries especially the promise of recompense and reward to the broken, destitute, maligned, and down-trodden offspring of Adam's race (Lk. 4:18).

It is our peculiar possession as believers (Paul called it “my gospel” and “our gospel” (Rom. 2:16; 16:26)), to which we are constrained to devote our very being. It is worthy of our labor in its fields, our embracing of its bonds, our defending it against heresy, and if necessary, the hazarding of our very lives for its advancement (Philippians 1:17; Mark 8:35; 2 Timothy 1:8; Philemon 1:13; Philippians 4:3).

Why would we be so disposed? Because this Gospel is one of wonderful and matchless grace (Acts 20:24) that brought salvation to us as lost sinners (Eph. 1:13). It bestows an enduring peace in the heart (Rom. 10:15) and a steadfast hope in the soul (Colossians 1:23). It brings life and immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10), establishes us in the truth (Colossians 1:5), and promises us eternal glory (1 Timothy 1:11). While we await the advent of its Kingdom, it adopts us into the family of God and creates an everlasting fellowship of spirit amongst all who respond to its message (Philippians 1:5).

Let us praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost for this most transformative message – the Gospel of Jesus Christ! — D. Murcek