

DO WE NEED A "NEW GOSPEL" FOR THIS MODERN AGE?

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We live in a modern age today; an age of great progress and change. No other period in man's history equals the changes that have come in the twentieth century. Since so many changes have come, some have concluded that the gospel of Christ is "out of date" and that man needs something new. So, we ask the question, "**Does the gospel of Christ that was revealed in the first century meet the needs of modern man?**"

Man has not changed since the gospel was revealed; **his physical nature is the same**. He still gets hungry, still thirsts for water, still grows weary, still worries and still gets sick.

Man's **moral nature has not changed**; his desires and passions are the same. He desires a companion and possessions just as man did two thousand years ago. He still loves preeminence and power in the church as Diotrephes did in Third John 9. Man today can still be tempted by Satan to fulfill his desires and passions in unlawful ways the same as he could two thousand years ago (I John 2: 15 - 17). Satan still tempts men and women to become unfaithful to the marriage bed just as he did in the days of Paul (I Cor. 7: 1- 5; I Cor. 5: 1 - 5). Yes, man still sins and needs a Savior (Rom. 3: 23; Luke 19:10).

Sin has not changed since the gospel was given. No new sin has been added to the long list of sins catalogued in the New Testament (Rom. 1: 18 - 32; Gal. 5: 19 - 21; I Cor. 6: 9, 10; Mark 7: 20 - 23; Rev. 22: 18 - 19; Matt. 15:9; I Cor. 4:6).

The **purpose of the gospel has not changed**; its purpose was to save men from sin (Rom. 1: 16, 17; Mark 16: 15, 16; Luke 19: 10; I Cor. 15: 1 - 4). The gospel did the job of saving men from their sins two thousand years ago (Mark 16: 15, 16; Rom. 1: 16 - 17), and it will do the same today. Man's efforts to change the gospel have come about because of his ignorance of truth (Rom. 10: 1 - 3), his desire to justify his ungodly practices (Isa. 5:20), and rebellion (John 5:40; 12:48). The man who changes the gospel stands under the curse of heaven (Gal. 1: 6 - 9; Rev. 22: 18 - 19).

I think you can see that the gospel **is** adequate for man's salvation today. What we all need to learn is that **man has not changed**; the only things that have changed in the world are custom, method and style. **Sin has not changed, temptation has not changed** and **man's needs have not changed**. Man still needs Christ and His blood (Matt. 26:28), God's grace (Tit. 2: 11, 12), the church (Acts 2:47), and the gospel of Jesus Christ (2 Thess. 1: 7 - 9).

No, we do **not** need a new gospel; we just need more and more preaching of the old Jerusalem gospel in its fullness. Sinful man still needs to hear the gospel (Rom. 10:17), believe the gospel (Mark 16:16; Acts 8: 36, 37), repent of his sins (Acts 2:38), confess Christ (Acts 8: 37), and be baptized into Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2: 38).

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