THE EXCLUSIVENESS OF THE GOSPEL

Matt. 7: 13 - 14

Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. "Exclusiveness" means: single, sole; singly devoted, undivided . . . excluding or having the power to exclude.
2. I suppose that the gospel way has received more criticism because of its exclusiveness than for any other distinctive feature.
3. Some would have us believe that it is too narrow to teach that there is only one way into heaven.
4. Let us look at some of the exclusive features of the gospel.

I. THERE IS NO OTHER GOD BUT THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL
1. "Thou shalt have not other gods before me" -- Exodus 20:3
2. Passages in the Gospel: I Cor. 8: 4 - 6; Eph. 4:6; Matt. 4:10
3. Many people who do not bow down to idols worship a god of their own manufacturing:
   (1) Some say, "My god is too good to send anybody to hell" -- This is not the God of the gospel -- Rom. 11:22; Rev. 20:11 - 15
   (2) Some think God is partial -- Acts 10:34 - 35; Rom. 10:13
   (3) Some think God is a God of confusion -- I Cor. 14:33.
   (4) Some think God is reluctant to save -- I Tim. 2:3 - 4; II Pet. 3:9.
   (5) Some think God is like man -- Psa. 50:21

II. THERE IS NO OTHER CHRIST BUT THE CHRIST OF THE GOSPEL
1. False teachers will come preaching another Christ -- II Cor. 11:4; Matt. 24:23 - 24
2. One Lord -- Eph. 4:5; I Cor. 8:6.
3. Some today preach another Christ:
   (1) The Modernist -- "Jesus is not the begotten Son of God; only a good man" -- Luke 1:35.
   (2) The Universalist -- "Christ will condemn none" -- Matt. 7:21 - 23; II Thess. 1:8 - 9
   (3) The Social Gospel teaches Christ was a social reformer; a humanitarian -- Luke 19:10

III. THERE IS NO OTHER GOSPEL
1. There are perverted gospels -- Gal. 1:6 - 9; II Cor. 11:4.
2. There is but one true gospel -- Rom. 1:16.
3. Many things are preached under the guise of the gospel:
   (1) Politics
   (2) Social Gospel
   (3) Doctrines of men -- Matt. 15:9

IV. THERE IS NO OTHER CHURCH BUT THE CHURCH OF THE GOSPEL
1. Christ promised to build but one -- Matt. 16:18.
3. There is but one body which is the church -- Eph. 4:4; Eph. 1:22 - 23
4. There is just as many churches as there are Gods and Christs and gospels.
5. The gospel does not teach there are many churches.

V. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY OF SALVATION BUT THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL
   1. John 14:6
   2. I must believe in Christ -- John 8:24
   4. I must Confess -- Rom. 10:10
   5. I must be Baptized -- Mark 16:16; Gal. 3:27

VI. THERE IS NO OTHER TIME TO OBEY THE GOSPEL
   1. II Cor. 6:2; James 4: 13- 14
   2. Felix -- Acts 24: 25

CONCLUSION

Preached at WXOR Radio 1976; Underwood Hts. 1972