

It's Gooder Than That!

Have you heard Jesus' true gospel message—the no-buts, no-quid-pro-quo, zero-additives version?

Most religious institutions can't help but slip in human conditions. This stems from the flesh: our stubborn desire to add us into the salvation equation in some way.

But if you haven't heard Jesus' gospel message yet—with absolutely no strings attached—I desperately need to share it with you.

Jesus' gospel is simply about letting Him love us.

And here is the radical twist: it doesn't require us to love Him back. It doesn't depend on us at all.

Jesus paid it all because He had to pay it all—extinguishing the entire debt of our sin.

It is easy to fall into institutional narratives that horrifically imply that where we go, who we try to be, and how hard we work proves our love for Jesus.

That performance mindset traps us in fake facades and futile practices. We burn out doing things in His name, thinking God defines us by our manufactured smiles and religious resumes.

This is a toxic narrative, and our pile of dirty rags just keeps growing taller.

Even worse, we transform Jesus' finished work on the cross into a progressive process we must constantly maintain.

When we do that, we miss the gospel entirely.

A Liberating Truth:

Jesus didn't die to grant us a second wind to keep plugging away at the exact same self-saving treadmill that sent Him to the cross. He died to end that cycle forever.

Jesus' gospel message isn't a self-improvement project.

It isn't a grueling 12-step process of slowly striving to become more sanctified, leaving you with total Thomas the Train fatigue.

Those are all those other counterfeit gospels calling you. Don't answer!

Jesus' gospel message is way gooder than that!

The exact moment we receive Jesus' free gift of salvation, we are instantly made completely holy, fully justified, and permanently washed by His blood.

How? Because salvation buries our identity as we rise again safely hidden in His.

It is Jesus looking directly at you—wherever religion has trapped you—and whispering:

"You can stop now."

You can stop achieving, performing, and dirty rag piling.

Jesus finalized the entire process for us!

His gospel isn't about what we do for Him. It is exclusively about what Jesus accomplished for us.

Jesus doesn't request you build a resume; He died to save you from your resume.

It is beautiful to give, help, and serve, and His blessings will flow through us as we abide in Him, but it all turns into dirty rags the moment we believe God is placing a gold star next to our name.

This may shock some, but let the truth disrupt what it needs to:

Jesus has never asked us to live for Him. Ever!

Instead, He offers us the free gift of abiding in His resurrected life and perfect identity.

If you think your daily failings disappoint God, hear this truth: by abiding in Jesus' identity, you possess total, uninterrupted security.

Regardless of your mixed reviews today or your imperfections tomorrow, God will never be any more disappointed in us than He is in His own Son.

You are so safely hidden away in Him that all God sees when He looks at you is His Son's identity.

I wonder if we so often obsess over "God's will for our lives" because we are actually missing Him—Jesus

Religious narratives misguide us by implying we must decode a hidden, highly specific blueprint meant only for us.

But if you are saved, God's will for your life has already been fully completed through the blood, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

You can put the tests and the pencils down. It is not about us, how we view ourselves, what we think we are good at.

God's true will for your life is unbroken, intimate communion with Him.

It is about letting Jesus love us into His uninterrupted fellowship with the Father, from which every blessing naturally flows.

This union doesn't happen because one of our dirty rags was finally clean enough. It happens because we abide in the One whose righteousness is perfect.

Most of us have heard it—No one can come to the Father except through Jesus.

For that self-focused person who can't help but twist this free gift into a debt they must pay back—while their pile of dirty rags reaches Tower of Babel heights—hear this clearly:

You can't pay Him back. He doesn't ask you to pay Him back.

Even thinking you should try comes from a spirit bred in religious pride that rejects His grace. It may sound honorable, but it is a self-righteous delusion.

So, have you heard Jesus' gospel message yet? No buts, no quid pro quo, no additives, and no strings attached.

When we choose to be a "whosoever" who believes in Jesus and rests entirely in His finished work, His Spirit will organically produce the beauty of His love and grace through us onto others.

He will overflow whenever it is needed, perfectly timed, as we simply grow in perceiving just How good Jesus' gospel message is.

"It is finished." ~ Jesus

Resting in His resurrected life and full identity.
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