



**What Is The Gospel?**



# **IS THE GOSPEL JUST A STORY?**

Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 15:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:8

# Another Gospel?

- Galatians 1:6-9
- Is the above text as obvious as it appears? If the “gospel” is just the story of Jesus, then we should not make a big deal about our doctrinal differences.
- I would love it if getting along was as easy as ignoring all of the major theological and doctrinal differences that divide Christendom. But that is not what real love asks of us.



## **IS THE GOSPEL NOTHING BUT THE CORE?**

An apple is more than its core, and there is no defining line where core ends and the rest begins.

# Core Gospel Facts?

- While it is convenient to point to the death, burial, and resurrection as the core of the Gospel, it becomes clear from reading the New Testament that there is much more involved in the totality of the Gospel.
- Even if we could pick out the most essential elements of the Gospel, does that mean it is enough to “believe” in them without responding through obedience (John 12:42-43, James 2:19)?

# Gospel or Doctrine?

- Gospel includes “sound teaching” (1 Timothy 1:8-11).
  - 2 Thess. 2:14-15 says we are called through the Gospel...
  - We serve God by His teaching and doctrine (Matthew 28:20, Acts 2:42)...
- “All scripture” includes that which is for correction (2 Tim. 3:16).
  - ...And that we must hold fast to the teachings that were given.
  - ...And by His Gospel (Ephesians 6:15, 1 Timothy 1:10-11).

# 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

- What does Paul mean when he qualifies his statements with “if you hold fast the word which I preached to you”? Consider:
  - Paul preached to them in Acts 18:8. Baptism must be part of the Gospel (1 Peter 3:21).
  - He tells Titus in Titus 1:9 to “hold fast the faithful word.” Was he holding fast to the same thing as the Corinthians? Notice Romans 16:25-26
  - The death, burial, and resurrection is not, in fact, the true point of the Gospel. The blessing of the promise of salvation is (2 Peter 1:3-4, Acts 2:38-39).