

THE LIFE CHANGING GOSPEL

THE LIFE CHANGING GOSPEL - PART 3

KEY QUESTION: Where have we and are we receiving His life changing Gospel?

KEY POINT: In the hidden recesses of our inner most being, the heart.

It was King David who said he wanted to know truth in the hidden part, the deepest recesses of his heart, because he knew the heart was the place of life and death. David knew this was the place the Gospel was to be birthed, established, formed and built within each and every follower of Jesus Christ, and nothing less than this would suffice.

Let's look at a number of Scriptures which testify to the truth of receiving this life changing Gospel within us through power.

Galatians 1:15-16 *But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood.*

Philippians 1:6 *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 2:13 *for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*

1 Thessalonians 2:13 *For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.*

This work in a person is a divine work of grace or power. It is not something we perform or can do in ourselves. This is all a divine work of the Spirit. If the Spirit is not doing this divine work then there will be no life inside of us being formed, no matter how active we may be in running around for Jesus, we will be void of any spiritual life within us.

We must have divine fellowship with the crucifixion and resurrection if any spiritual life is to be birthed, formed and built in us. How many of us can give living testimony to this deep inner work taking place in the recesses of our being through the Spirit?

Q. Do we have divine fellowship with the crucifixion and resurrection within us through power or just as association with them through a mental and verbal agreement?

Paul who said imitate me testifies to having divine oneness with the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ within himself and if we are going to be an imitator of Paul and God, we must also share in this likeness.

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Romans 6:5-6 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin.

As already stated it is one thing to mentally and verbally agree with Paul's testimony, while it is an entirely different reality to experience the fellowship or oneness of this testimony in you, making you one with this testifying work of the Spirit, as Paul and others were.

Are we able to testify from within us of who we once were as an old creation, to who we now are as a brand new creature in Christ? Is the Gospel of Jesus Christ changing us from the inside out, empowering us to demonstrate a wisdom we never could before?

Only when the Gospel is at work within us, transforming us from the inside out, whether that's the circumcision of one's heart or the renewing of one's mind, are we in fact recipients of the life that comes through the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Anything less than this is just another way, no matter how Godly it may appear.

QUESTIONS

1. Can you imagine what it was like to be Saul and receive this transformational Gospel which instantly changes your inner realm to such a significant measure you instantly behave differently? What do you think it would have been like for Saul/Paul?
2. As a group marinate in Romans 6:5-6 and pull out the key things which Paul testifies of. Get someone to write them down and then read them out once finished.
3. How many of us can give testimony to having divine fellowship with the crucifixion and resurrection within us through power?
4. Why is it critical we experience this work of the Spirit within us if we haven't already done so?
5. What is a person able to live out now that they have this divine fellowship with the Gospel?
6. What need are you being made aware of through this resource and what is your response to be in relation to this need?