

The Gospel: There is Always Good News For the Believer

New Pilgrim Baptist Church Bible Study

Pastor Marcus Jerkins, PhD

11/5/25

Lesson: Studying the Gospel of Jesus Christ Pt. 1 (Mark 1:14-15; Isaiah 52:1-12; Romans 1:1-17)

- I. The gospel: The foundation of our movement and reason for our trust in God (Mark 1:14-15)
 - A. Jesus's proclamation of the gospel (*euaggelion*) and its implications
 1. The time is now.
 2. The kingdom of God is near.
 3. Repent! To receive the reign of God, to accept his Lordship, we must be willing to change, to leave old ways behind, old thinking must be rejected for the mind of God.
 4. Believe the gospel! We must be willing to trust what God has said about us and our future in him. The good news is those who trust in the king and live in his kingdom will be preserved forever. We must believe the message of Jesus Christ and walk like we believe it.
- II. The foundation of the gospel message (Isaiah 52:1-12)
 - A. The Context for the Good News
 1. Isaiah shows us that Israel was beleaguered by the consequences of their *own* sins. The Assyrians had taken the northern kingdom, the Egyptians had attacked from the south, and the Babylonians had exiled the southern kingdom and destroyed the temple. Israel had been scattered to the four winds and the country was in complete ruins. All because of their sinfulness. In the midst of this societal ruin, God sent Isaiah to let the people know that though it looked like the devil was in charge, God was still going to rescue them.
 - B. The Content for the Good News
 1. Wake up! The text beckons Israel to realize God has set them free, even with their chains still on. God has the power to free you when you are still in captivity. God's call was to stir them up to realize he was going to do something. (vv. 1-2)
 2. Israel was a lost people. They had lost touch with their God, themselves, and their land. (vv. 3-7)
 3. The messenger of God was to come to Israel to declare very good news. Their freedom from captivity rested not on their own strength but the kingdom of God. The Messenger declares salvation BECAUSE the God of Israel reigns. The king who sits on the throne is the only one who can save and destroy. He is the one who reigns of King of kings and Lord of lords. This is the gospel. We rejoice (vv. 8-10)
 4. The ones charged with the work of God must stay away from unclean things. There is no need. God protects the front and the back (vv. 11-12).