

HOW DOES GOD SAVE A PERSON?

God has chosen to save man by the preaching of his Word. In fact God says that it pleases him to save man by the foolishness of preaching. God's foolishness is available to all who will believe the report, which is by "the preaching of the cross." **I Corinthians 1:18** *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.* **I Corinthians 1:21** *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*

Jesus used the foolishness of preaching the "gospel of the kingdom" to the people of Israel. **Matthew 4:23** *And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and **preaching the gospel of the kingdom**, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*

In time past, Jesus says that Jonah used the foolishness of preaching repentance to Nineveh. **Matthew 12:41** *The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.*

In preparation for the kingdom of Israel to be set up by the Lord, John the Baptist preached the baptism of repentance to Israel. **Luke 3:3** *And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;*

Paul and Barnabas and others preached and taught the Word of the Lord. **Acts 15:35** *Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.*

After Paul was a long-time preaching, a young man went to sleep, fell out the window dead. Paul embraced him and presented him alive again from the dead. **Acts 20:9** *And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.*

Paul preached and taught the kingdom of God concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. **Acts 20:25** *And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.* **Acts 28:31** *Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.*

Some did not believe Paul's preaching of the gospel. **Romans 10:16** *But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?*

Our apostle Paul tells us that we can be established according to his gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery. **Romans 16:25** *Now to him that is of*

*power to stablish you according to **my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ**, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,*

Paul's preaching was in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power. It was not in any of man's wisdom. **I Corinthians 2:4** *And my speech and **my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom**, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:*

The power of the gospel was the preaching of Christ's resurrection from the dead. **I Corinthians 15:14** *And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.*

II Corinthians 1:18 *But as God is true, our word toward you was not yea and nay.* **II Corinthians 10:14** *For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also **in preaching the gospel of Christ**:* **II Timothy 4:17** *notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.* **Titus 1:3** *But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;*

Why did the apostle Paul preach? He wanted to present every man perfect at the judgment seat of Christ. The trial of our work by fire for rewards will come after the rapture of the Church to heaven. **Colossians 1:28** *Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; **that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus**:*

Paul exhorts the members of Christ's church to be faithful. **II Timothy 4:2** *Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*

God has given unto his church of this dispensation of grace, the ministry of reconciliation. **II Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation**; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and **hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation**. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.*

The future gospel that will be preached on the earth during the tribulation period will be the "everlasting gospel." **Revelation 14:6** *And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, **having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth**, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,*

We can clearly see that God has a job for man in all ages. Today it is: **Ephesians 2:10**. **We are created in Christ Jesus unto all good works for his glory.**