

Why Obey the Gospel of Christ?

Introduction

Acts 2:40-41 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." **Then those who gladly received his word were baptized;** and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

- 1. 3,000 Jews on Pentecost, when they heard the preaching of Peter proclaiming the gospel of Christ – they gladly received the teaching of God and were baptized for the forgiveness of their sins.**
 - A. We are taught that everyone sins.**

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- 1) Therefore, everyone needs to be forgiven of their sins.**
- 2. In our teaching about the doctrine of Christ, we often emphasize:**
 - A. What a person must do to obey the gospel.**
 - B. The importance of the Lord's church after obedience.**
- 3. But why should a person obey the gospel of Christ?**
- 4. We sometimes make things harder and more complicated than they have to be.**
- 5. Here are some simple reasons to obey the gospel.**

Those Who Do Not Will Miss the Joy of Being a Christian

1. **Godliness profits us now and in the world to come.**

1 Timothy 4:8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but **godliness is profitable for all things**, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

Mark 10:29-31

2. **The joy of our relationship with the family of God is great.**

Acts 20:36-38

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy.

3. **The joy of being a Christian is influential.**

Acts 16:25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and **the prisoners were listening to them**.

Acts 16:34 Now when he had brought them into his house, **he set food before them; and he rejoiced**, having believed in God with all his household.

4. **No matter what his outward circumstances, the Christian can "rejoice in the Lord always" (Philippians 4:4).**

Those Who Do Not Cannot Say They Love God

1. To truly love God is to keep His commandments.

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

2. To love God is to show our gratitude for His love.

1 John 4:9-10

Those Who Do Not Are Lost

1. Jesus came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

2. He call on to obey, but if we refuse, He will not shelter us from the consequences of our choice.

Matthew 23:37-39

3. Those who do not obey the gospel will be lost.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

Those Who Do Not Will Miss Heaven

1. Heaven will be a place of rest.

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

2. There will be no sorrow, no death.

Revelation 21:1-8

3. In heaven, we will be in God's presence.

Revelation 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Conclusion

1. Very clear alternatives are set before each one of us.

Romans 2:6-11

2. Jesus tenderly appeals to us to come to Him – He invites and we must respond to His invitation if we want to be saved.

Matthew 11:28-30

3. This is what Jesus wants you to do in order to have an eternal home with Him, His heavenly Father, and all the righteous:

- Hear **Romans 10:17**
- Believe **Hebrews 11:6**
- Repent **Luke 13:3**
- Confess **Matthew 10:32**
- Be Baptized **Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16**
- Live Faithfully **Revelation 2:10**

