



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved WORLD!

(#1)

The world needs the genuine Good News!

THE WORLD

[Including church-going fakes, followers of religion, "don't-knows" and atheists!!!]

SCRIPTURE TELLS US ABOUT:

1. THEIR MOST HORRIBLE CONDITION:

- ✓ They knew the truth, but chose a lie.
- ✓ They knew what is right, but chose what is evil.
 - ✓ Their thinking has become corrupt – even to the point that they don't view themselves as evil.

✓ They have become slaves to sin, and have earned God's judgment.

[SUMMARY OF WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE "WORLD"]

[SCRIPTURE TELLS US ABOUT:]

2. THEIR MOST HORRIBLE INSANITY:

- ✓ God has done all that is necessary:
 - to remove their judgment, and
 - to release them from slavery to sin and corrupt thinking.
- ✓ God has offered them hope and love.

✓ They have rejected God's offer.

3. THEIR MOST HORRIBLE JUDGMENT:

- ✓ A judgment they will be powerless to avoid.
 - ✓ Because they have chosen the way of sin.
 - ✓ Because they have rejected God's hope and love.

✓ It will be the consequence of their own choices – what their thoughts and actions have earned.

[SUMMARY OF WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE "WORLD"]

WE, God's people,

have been told that we must proclaim the GOOD NEWS of salvation:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

[Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Mark 16:15 (NIV)

TO THE UNSAVED WORLD.

You are the light of the world. A city located on a hill cannot be hidden.

People do not light a lamp and put it under a basket but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they can see your good deeds and give honor to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16 (NET)

As a LIGHT in a world of DARKNESS.

Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, rebuke and expose them.

Ephes. 5:11 (NLT)

... children of God in a dark world full of crooked and perverse people. Let your lives shine brightly before them.

Phillip. 2:15b-16a (NLT)

But it cannot happen unless we are willing to tell them!

And how can they hear about [Jesus] unless someone tells them?

Romans 10:14b (NLT)

And it must be what God wants us to tell them!

I'M A "SILENT WITNESS"!

I'M SURE THEY CAN HEAR ME!

I'M GLAD SHE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING!



Scripture is filled with warnings against distorting the Good news.

False messiahs and false prophets will appear.
Matthew 24:24a (GW)

... false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.
2 Cor. 11:13b (NIV)

Indeed, some of your own men will arise and distort the truth ... So be alert! ... I never stopped tearfully warning each of you.
Acts 20:30-31 (ISV)

... there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, ... Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute.
2 Peter 2:1b-2 (NIV)

All kinds of warnings ...

... many false prophets have gone out into the world.
1 John 4:1b (NASB)

For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.
Jude 1:4 (NIV)

But even if we [apostles] (or an angel from heaven) should preach a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be condemned to hell!
Galatians 1:8 (NET)

WE NEED TO PURSUE INNOCENCE!

Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.
Acts 20:26-27 (NIV)

Even so, IN SPITE OF ALL GOD'S WARNINGS ...

Many people are so **anxious, zealous or concerned** about the salvation of others,

that they are willing to do just about **anything**

to get them to make a "decision" for Jesus.

- ✓ "Repackage" the Good News to make it more appealing.
- ✓ De-emphasize the offensive aspects of the Good News.
- ✓ Apply all the manipulative techniques they can learn from modern psychology and the advertising industry.

MUCH OF THE MODERN-DAY "GOOD NEWS" IS BASED ON APPEALS TO THE SINFUL NATURE.

- ✓ **DISTORTING** the message, to make it sound more enticing.
- ✓ **NEGLECTING** things that might offend.
- ✓ **REPLACING** *Scripture's* concept of "Good News" with something else that is more appealing (and perhaps still true).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TO HEAVEN, INSTEAD OF HELL?

OF COURSE! WHO WANTS TO BURN, WHEN THEY COULD HAVE FUN!

THEN REPEAT THIS SHORT PRAYER AFTER ME...

THE END RESULT: There may be many "decisions."

BUT SINCE: The message has ceased to be the real thing,

↳ **there are few genuine "conversions."**

DECISIONS:

- ✓ What WE can get from people, if we revise the Good News to make it more appealing.

CONVERSIONS:

- ✓ What GOD does to change hearts, based on the undistorted, original Good News.

THE WORST THING ABOUT "DECISIONS"??

- ✓ Though we gave the people a counterfeit "good news," they will think it was the "real thing."
- ✓ All those warnings about false teachers will apply to us.

THE END RESULT:

- ✓ In our "zeal" to see people saved... we will be accomplishing the opposite.

THE SAME TYPE OF THING HAPPENED IN JESUS' DAY:

You cross land and sea to recruit a single follower, and when you do, you make that person twice as fit for hell as you are.
Matthew 23:15b (GW)

DECISIONS, DECISIONS ...

Many will leave, with a bad impression of what they wrongly thought was the real thing.

ALL FAKE – A BIG SHOW!

I TRIED IT AND IT DIDN'T WORK!

I KNEW THERE WAS A CATCH TO IT! THEY DIDN'T TELL ME UNTIL AFTER I "PRAYED THE PRAYER"!

I KNEW IT SOUNDED TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF CON ARTISTS!

Many of those who don't leave will have a bad surprise at the Day of Judgment.

SURELY YOU DON'T MEAN "HELL"!

LORD, THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!

And FEW CONVERSIONS ...

A few may actually search the Scriptures, discover the genuine Good News, and be saved.*

I STARTED STUDYING SCRIPTURE AND DISCOVERED THE TRUTH! THEN GOD SAVED ME "FOR REAL"!

* (You might be one of these people. But if God did save you, it is in spite of the misrepresentations, not because of them.)

Remember that the BIBLE itself tells us that the GOOD NEWS is...

✓ **Offensive to many.**

PEOPLE GOT OFFENDED EVEN WHEN JESUS WAS THE SPEAKER!

And they took offense at Him.
Mark 6:3b (NASB)

PAUL REFUSED TO MODIFY THE GOOD NEWS TO MAKE IT MORE APPEALING – THOUGH HE KNEW PEOPLE WOULD STOP BEING OFFENDED BY IT!

In that case the cross wouldn't be offensive anymore.
Galatians 5:11b (GW)

✓ **Considered foolish by many.**

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
1 Cor. 1:18 (NIV)

✓ **Considered a "hard teaching" that many people won't want to accept.**

When many of Jesus' disciples* heard him, they said, "What he says is hard to accept. Who wants to listen to him anymore?"
John 6:60 (GW)

* (Not the apostles, but many of his other followers. We could compare them to modern-day church-goers.)

✓ **Something that people hate and want to avoid.**

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.
John 3:19-20 (NIV)

It takes the power of God to save a person.

[Jesus] went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him."
John 6:65 (NIV)

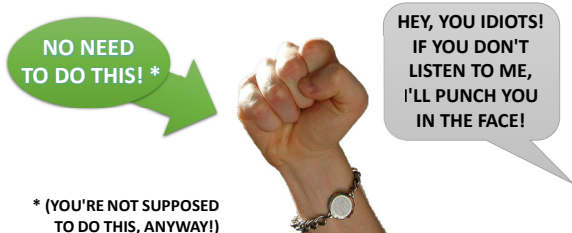
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN OBNOXIOUS JERK TO GET A NEGATIVE RESPONSE!

You can do everything right... and they will still oppose you because they hate the message!

NO NEED TO DO THIS! *

HEY, YOU IDIOTS! IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME, I'LL PUNCH YOU IN THE FACE!

* (YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THIS, ANYWAY!)



The WORST thing you can do is to tamper with the GOOD NEWS!

To:

- ✓ Repackage / distort
- ✓ De-emphasize / neglect
- ✓ Substitute / sugar-coat
- ✓ Modify in any other way

The GOOD NEWS ...

So that it becomes:

- ✓ Less offensive
- ✓ "Wise"-sounding
- ✓ Easily acceptable
- ✓ Loveable and pleasing

To the hearer's sinful nature!

The Spirit of God uses
The GOOD NEWS that unsaved people hate
To change people's hearts...



That is ...



To create GENUINE CONVERSIONS!

**DON'T TAKE AWAY THE SPIRIT'S
OPPORTUNITY TO WORK,
BY CHANGING THE MESSAGE HE USES!**

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITY

Do you know what the GOOD NEWS actually is?



Check the book of Acts, to see what
the apostles said it was!



Then compare what they
say to what you have heard.

Credits (1)

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Credits (2)

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