



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved WORLD!

(#48)

Why do people promote the "new good news," instead of the original, genuine Good News?

LAST TIME, WE SUGGESTED THAT YOU READ THE BOOK OF ACTS... FOR THIS PURPOSE:

SUGGESTED MISSION FOR THIS WEEK:

READ THE BOOK OF ACTS!

COMPARE → THE EMPHASIS OF THE "NEW GOOD NEWS"

TO → THE ORIGINAL GOOD NEWS

- ✓ THE "NEW GOOD NEWS" tends to be centered around the word "LOVE."
- ✓ FIND OUT the extent that "LOVE" was the focus of the original Good News ...

- THE NEWS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD!

IF YOU FOLLOWED LAST WEEK'S SUGGESTION...

 You have discovered that the Bible's "Good News" has a totally different emphasis! It's quite unlike the "new good news"!

BECAUSE OF THIS FACT...

WE SHOULD QUESTION THE "NEW GOOD NEWS."

WE SHOULD ASK:

"WHY???"

We should ask:

"WHY???" **WHY** were the changes made?

WHY are we so zealous to do things the way God didn't tell us to do them?

WHY does Scripture contain so many warnings against making changes?

WHY do we expect the same salvation results with a different message?

THE "GOOD NEWS" OF THE BIBLE

- ✓ **DOESN'T entice the flesh** (sinful nature) with rewards, security, happiness, acceptance, love, "wonderful plans for your life," fulfillment...
- ✓ **DOES require us to oppose the flesh** (sinful nature) with repentance, trust in God, obedience, a renewed mind, holiness....

 **Don't believe it? Read the book of ACTS!**

In contrast... 

TODAY'S REVISED "GOOD NEWS"

- ✓ **Is like "bait"** – designed to "lure" people into "making a decision."
- >> It's based on things that appeal to the flesh.

IT MAY BE...	BUT IT ISN'T...
A display of:	A display of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emotions ➤ Manipulation ➤ Half-truth & deception ➤ Marketing techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Holy Spirit's power ➤ Faithfulness to the Scriptures

MUCH OF TODAY'S "GOOD NEWS" IS BASED ON:

... the world's "psychologized" distortions of *the nature of people and sin.*

... the teachings of people who *openly rejected* and *opposed* the Bible.

... a *rejection* of everything the Bible says about *human nature.*

In the last 100 years, atheists, as part of their rejection of God's Word, have "psychologized" sin out of existence. Sin is no longer considered the problem... it's lack of love and acceptance!

★ *Many in the church blindly cling to what they say!* ★

THE STARTING POINT FOR THE WORLD'S VIEWS: A REJECTION OF GOD AND WHAT HE SAYS.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Romans 1:18-20 (NIV)

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.

"Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters."

Psalm 2:1-3 (NIV)

This "new good news" is NOT a "neutral" issue.

- ✓ It **turns** the "good news" into an enticement for gaining rewards and self-fulfillment.
- ✓ It **removes** everything offensive in the "original" Good News and makes it appeal to the flesh (the sinful nature).
- ✓ It **exchanges** the glory of God for an "image" of a god that better fits what unsaved people want to hear about.
- ✓ It **distorts** the purpose for which God offered us the "Good News."
- ✓ It **twists** the motivation for people wanting to be "saved."
- ✓ It **downplays** the seriousness of sin.

(CONTINUED)

- ✓ It **ignores** God's holiness and our obligation to be holy.
- ✓ It **omits** the *necessity* of serious life changes (repentance).
- ✓ It **reduces** "following" Jesus (= obeying him) to a "secondary" matter, which you can choose to do at a later time (if desired).

MAKE HIM YOUR "SAVIOR"
NOW, SO YOU CAN GET INTO
HEAVEN.

LATER, YOU CAN DECIDE
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE
HIM YOUR "LORD."

THE REAL ISSUE:

A time will come when people will not listen to accurate teachings. Instead, they will follow their own desires and surround themselves with teachers who tell them what they want to hear.

2 Tim. 4:3 (GW)

Example: A distorted emphasis on "LOVE."

- Most presentations of the modern-day "good news" tend to start with "God loves you" (or something similar)...

... even though the "Good News" of the Bible **NEVER** starts that way!

★ *It's an UNDEFINED "love."* ★

- The type of "love" described in the BIBLE *doesn't even exist* in the mental framework of most people today.
- Therefore, from the very start, the "new good news" is a *miscommunication!*

THIS IS A SERIOUS MATTER!

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IN THE BIBLE: How often is "LOVE" described as part of the Good News?

NEVER, NOT EVER.

- NOT in the Book of Acts.
- NOT in the teachings of the apostles.
- NOT in the teachings of Jesus.
- NOT in any Old Testament counterpart to the New Testament Good News.

IT IS NEVER ANYWHERE IN THE BIBLE
PRESENTED AS PART OF THE GOOD NEWS!

There is NO good reason to hide this fact!

The book of Acts is the record of how the **Good News** spread across the world.

Yet *the word "love" doesn't even occur* in Acts – *not even one time*, anywhere in the book!

Especially an **undefined "love"** that misleads the hearer!

WE SHOULD ASK:

"WHY???"

IF WE LOOK AT ALL THE NEW TESTAMENT VERSES ABOUT LOVE, WE DISCOVER:

1. Some refer to Jesus as loved by the Father. (Example: John 5:20.)
2. Others refer to our duty to love God and neighbor. (Example: Matthew 22:37-40.)
3. Many refer to God's love to saved people, sometimes describing that love as beginning before their salvation. (Example: Romans 5:8; Ephes. 1:4-5.)
- ★ 4. Only a small number of verses use the word "love" (or anything similar) in reference to unsaved people... *but not as part of the Good News.*

★ **YES! THERE IS A TYPE OF LOVE DIRECTED TOWARD THE UNSAVED!** ★

★ **But it's not the message of the Good News.** ★

 We plan to look at this  next time.

HERE IS THIS WEEK'S MISSION!

1. Ask the question "WHY"!

WHY are PEOPLE so insistent on forming their message around the word "LOVE," when JESUS AND THE APOSTLES so totally omitted it!

2. Decide which "good news" you want to follow!

(It could influence your eternal destiny.)

Credits

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