#### The Remarkable Gospel

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1; Rom. 1:16-17; Eph. 3:8

#### Introduction

Remarkable: unusual or striking; beyond what is ordinary or usual; highly unusual or exceptional; important in effect or meaning: striking, outstanding, phenomenal, uncommon, noteworthy, pre-eminent.

#### I. The Bible is a remarkable book

# A. Making wise unto salvation

And that from a babe you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus—2 Tim. 3:15.

# B. Being breathed out by God

All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, / That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work—3:16-17.

# C. Being spoken through men borne by the Holy Spirit

And we have the prophetic word made more firm, to which you do well to give heed as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; / Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of one's own interpretation; / For no prophecy was ever borne by the will of man, but men spoke from God while being borne by the Holy Spirit—2Pet 1:19-21.

# D. Being living and operative

For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart—Heb. 4:12.

#### II. The earth is a remarkable planet

# A. Being created by God

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth—Gen. 1:1.

# B. Being made to be inhabited by man, a creature with a spirit

For thus says Jehovah, Who created the heavens - He is the God Who formed the earth and made it; He established it; He did not create it waste, But He formed it to be inhabited: I am Jehovah and there is no one else—Isa. 45:11.

The burden of the word of Jehovah concerning Israel. Thus declares Jehovah, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundations of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him—Zech. 12:1.

# III. Man is a remarkable creature—made in the image of God to express Him and given dominion in the earth to represent Him

#### A. Being created with three parts

And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth—Gen. 1:26.

Jehovah God formed man with the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul—2:7.

#### B. Having become corrupted and condemned

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God—Rom. 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord—6:23.

And you, though dead in your offenses and sins, / In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience; / Among whom we also all conducted ourselves once in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the thoughts, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest—Eph. 2:1-3.

# C. But being restored and blessed with every spiritual blessing and being predestinated to sonship

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, / Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)—Eph. 2:4-5.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ, / Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, / Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will—Eph. 1:3-5.

# IV. Jesus Christ is a remarkable man—Savior, Lord, Head, and Universal Administrator.

For there is one God and one Mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus—1 Tim. 2:5.

#### A. Remarkable in birth

...an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit. / And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins. / Now all this has happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, / "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which is translated, God with us)—Matt. 1:20b-23.

# B. Remarkable in human living

And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality—John 1:14.

No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him—1:18.

Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me. / If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and henceforth you know Him and have seen Him.—John 14:6-7.

#### C. Remarkable in His death on the cross

Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil, / And might release those who because of the fear of death through all their life were held in slavery—Heb. 2:14-15.

For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh—Rom. 8:3.

#### D. Remarkable in His resurrection

That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You"—Acts. 13:33.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead—1 Pet. 1:3.

So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45.

# E. Remarkable in His Ascension

...according to the operation of the might of His strength, / Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, / Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come; / And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, / Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all—Eph. 1:20b-23.

## F. Remarkable in His salvation—making sinners to become sons of God

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. / For you have not received a spirit of slavery bringing you into fear again, but you have received a spirit of sonship in which we cry, Abba, Father! / The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God—Rom 8:14-16.

Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers; / And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also glorified—Rom. 8:29-30.

## V. Now is a remarkable moment for many who are hearing this word

And working together with Him, we also entreat you not to receive the grace of God in vain; / For He says, "In an acceptable time I listened to you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the well-acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation—2 Cor. 6:1-2.