Peter’s View Of The Gospel

Intro: Peter gives us a wonderful view of the gospel in 1 Pet. 1:22-25 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

22Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 23For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

I. DESCRIPTIONS OF THE GOSPEL.

A. Truth; 1 Pet. 1:22 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:"

1. Pilate asked what truth is.
   a. John 18:38 “Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.”
   b. This question is not peculiar to him.

2. Jesus had given the answer in John 18:37 “Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”
   a. God’s Word is truth; John 17:17 “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
   b. John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
   c. John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”
   d. John 8:31-32 “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
   (1) If we continue in Christ’s Word, the truth:
   (2) We will be His disciples.
   (3) We will be set free.

3. Truth is the Word of God as taught and exemplified by Christ.

4. We need to be a questioning people.
   a. 1 The. 5:21 “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”
   b. Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”
   c. 1 John 4:1 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”
   d. Put everything to a test, truth has no fear.
   e. We need to name false teachers.

B. Seed; Incorruptible; 1 Pet. 1:23 “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

1. From Greek σπορά (spora).
   a. We get our words “spore” or “sperm” from it.
   b. That which gives life.

2. When the seed is planted, it brings forth life.
   a. A seed will produce after its kind.
   b. The Word of God will produce Christians.

3. Luke 8:11 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.”
   a. The seed when planted in honest hearts brings forth Christians.
b. This is the same it produced in the first century.

C. **Word of God; 1 Pet. 1:23** “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

1. One of the greatest attacks in modern times is Neo-Orthodoxy.
   a. It denies that it is the Word of God.
   b. They believe it is simply the word of men.

2. The truth, the incorruptible seed, the gospel has its origin in God.
   a. 1 Cor. 14:37 “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.”
   b. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”
   c. 2 Pet. 1:20-21 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”
   d. 1 Cor. 2:13 “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

3. Seven proofs that this is the word of God.
   a. The testimony of Jesus
      (1) He was more than just a man.
      (2) His resurrection.
      (3) Prophecies about Him.
         (a) 322 direct prophecies in minute detail.
         (b) Chances of one person fulfilling all of these prophecies are 1/84 with 99 zero’s following.
   b. The books themselves.
   c. Fulfilled prophecy
   d. Scientific Inerrancy.
      (1) Earth
         (a) Spherical;
            i) Pro. 8:27 “When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:”
            ii) Isa. 40:22 “It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:”
         (b) Revolves daily; Job 38:12-14 “Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place; 13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? 14 It is turned as clay to the seal, and they stand as a garment.”
         (c) Not supported; Job 26:7 “He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.”
      (2) Stars
         (a) Emit sound; Job 38:7 “When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”
         (b) Innumerable; Jer. 33:22 “As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.”
         (c) Empty space in the north; Job 26:7 “He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.”
(3) Light existed before the sun; Gen. 1:3, 14-18 “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.... 14And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: 15And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. 16And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.”

(4) Paths of the Sea; Psa. 8:8 “The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.”

(5) Life is in the blood; Lev. 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

(6) Seed of Woman; Gen.3:15 “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

e. Archaeology
(1) The spade continues to support the Bible.
(2) The walls of Jericho
(3) The flood.
f. Influence of the Bible: Without the Bible man devolves; with the Bible man evolves.
g. Victory over all attacks.
(1) Governments have tried to destroy it.
(2) Infidels.
(a) Voltaire: 1694-1778
i) French skeptic: In 100 years Bible discarded and Christianity swept from the earth.
ii) 25 years after his death his house was used by the Geneva Bible Society and his printing press was used to print Bibles.
(b) Thomas Paine: 1787 became an infidel, wrote Age of Reason which he said would destroy the Bible and Christianity.
(3) John Clifford’s poem.
“Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith’s door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
When looking in, I saw upon the floor,
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.

“‘How many anvils have you had,’ said I,
‘To wear and batter all these hammers so?’
‘Just one,’ said he; then said with twinkling eye,
‘The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.’

“And so, I thought, the anvil of God’s word
For ages skeptics blows have beat upon;
Yet, through the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed - the hammers gone!”
4. That Word must be respected even as God.

D. **Word of the Lord; 1 Pet. 1:25** “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

1. Lord is from the Greek κυρίος (kurios) which means ruler or master.
2. In the New Testament the term is used more often for Christ.
   a. Heb. 1:1-2 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”
   b. John 12:48-50 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”
   c. John 4:34 “Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.”
   d. John 5:19, 30 “Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.... I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”
   e. John 6:14 “Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.” cf. Acts 3:22-23 “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.”
   f. John 6:38 “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.”

E. **Gospel; 1 Pet. 1:25** “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

1. From Greek εὐαγγέλιον (euangelion) which means good news, glad tidings, or sweet story.
2. Eph. 1:13 “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,”
3. That good news is the salvation which we have through Christ death, burial, and resurrection.
4. 1 Cor. 15:1-4 “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures;”

II. **THE MEDIUM OF THE GOSPEL**

A. **Through the Spirit; 1 Pet. 1:22** “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:”

B. **Mat. 3:11** “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:”
C. In John 14-16 Christ speaking to His apostles promised them that the Holy Spirit would come to them.
   1. Purposes of the Spirit; John 14:26; 16:13 “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.... 16:13Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”
   a. Teach them all things
   b. Bring to remembrance whatsoever I have commanded
   c. Guide into all truth
   d. Show them things yet to come

2. The work of the Spirit. John 16:7-14 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. 8And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. 12I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”
   a. Convict (Reprove) the world of sin.
   b. Convict (Reprove) the world of righteousness.
   c. Convict (Reprove) the world of judgment.

D. The Spirit comes to the apostles; Acts 2:1-4 “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”
   1. Acts 1:2-8 “Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: 3To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 4And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
   a. Jesus promises the Spirit coming to the apostles.
   b. John the Baptist’s prophecy is explained as applying to the apostles; Mat. 3:11 “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:”

2. In Acts 2:14-36 the Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment to come.
   a. He does not do it miraculously (in a direct way upon the hearts of the hearers).
   b. He does it by the words (later the writings) spoken by the apostles.
E. The Spirit does this through the truth, incorruptible seed, the Word of God, the Word of the Lord.

1. Eph. 6:17 “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:”

2. 2 Pet. 1:20-21 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

3. Hear what the Spirit saith; Rev. 1:1, 4; 2:1, 7 “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:... John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;... Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;... He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.”

III. The Demands Of The Gospel

A. God’s work is done. He offered salvation.

1. Rom. 1:16-17 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”

2. Tit. 2:11 “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,”

3. But man must obey that seed: accept the truth.

B. Purify your souls in obeying the truth; 1 Pet. 1:22 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:”

1. Your souls.
   a. Eze. 18:4, 20 “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.... The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”
   b. Sin separates us from God.
      (1) Death is separation; Jam. 2:26 “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”
      (2) Isa. 59:1-2 “Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
   c. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

2. Purified.
   a. Heb. 9:22 “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”
   b. Christ is the one who purges (purifies) our sins.
      (1) Heb. 1:3 “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”
      (2) Rev. 1:5 “And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”
      (3) His death is where He shed His blood.
c. **In baptism our sins are washed by the blood of Christ.**

1. Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”
   a. Notice how we get into the church
   b. Acts 2:38-41, 47 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

2. Acts 22:16 “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

3. Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
   a. Does for the remission of sins mean because of?
   b. Mat. 26:28 “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”

4. Rom. 6:1-6 “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be in the likeness of his resurrection: 6Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”

3. **Sin separates us from God, thus if we would be united with God we must have our souls purified.** How?

4. **By obedience to the truth.**
   a. It must be obeyed even though it is a free gift of God.
   b. Heb. 5:8-9 “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”
   c. 1 Pet. 4:17 “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?”
   d. 2 The. 1:6-9 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”

C. **Being born again; 1 Pet. 1:23** “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

1. John 3:1-7 “There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. 3Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of
God. "Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

2. How are we born again?
   a. Not a physical birth but one of water and Spirit.
   b. Water and Spirit is only one birth not two. It takes both to be born again.

3. Water
   a. The only thing in the New Testament that has to do with water is baptism.
   b. John the Baptist
      (1) John 1:33 “And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.”
      (2) John 3:23 “And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.”
      (3) Mat. 3:16 “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:”
      (4) John was preparing man for Christ and his teaching.
   c. Acts 8:36-38 “And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? 37And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”
   d. Acts 10:47-48 “Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.”
   e. Heb. 10:22 “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”
   f. 1 Pet. 3:20-21 “Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:”

4. Spirit
   a. The Spirit begets us by the means of the word.
   b. 1 Cor. 4:15 “For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.”
   c. 1 Cor. 12:13 “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”
   d. Jam. 1:18 “Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”
   e. Eph. 5:26 “That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,”

5. This new birth (baptism) is required to enter into the kingdom of God.
   a. Mat. 16:18-19 “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
b. Luke 8:10-11 “And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. 11Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.”

(1) Seed of kingdom is the word of God.
(2) The result is the church; Acts 2:14-41, 47

c. Mark 9:1 “And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.”

(1) Acts 1:6-8 “When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

(2) Holy Spirit comes with power and the church is established; Acts 2:1-4 “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

d. Mat. 26:26-29 “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 27And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 29But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

(1) Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

(2) Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”

(3) 1 Cor. 11:23-34

e. 2 Sam. 7:12-16 “And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: 15But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. 16And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.”

(1) Everlasting house; 1 Tim. 3:15 “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou outhest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

(2) Everlasting kingdom; Heb. 12:23, 28 “To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,... 28Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:”

(3) Everlasting throne
(a) Acts 2:29-36 “Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. 30Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins,
according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. 34For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35Until I make thy foes thy footstool. 36Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

(b) Eph. 3:21 “Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

6. Must be born again to enter the family of God.
   a. 1 Tim. 3:15 “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”
   b. The church

7. Must be born again (baptized) to be a new creature.
   a. 2 Cor. 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.”
   b. How do we get into Christ?
      (1) Rom. 6:3-4 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
      (2) Gal. 3:26-27 “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

8. Must be born again to become a child of God; Gal. 3:26-27 “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

9. We must be begotten by the Spirit which is effected by the Word of God; that penitent faith generated by the gospel will lead one to obey the New Testament command to be baptized in water; and those who do such will become citizens of the Kingdom.

IV. RESULTS OF THE GOSPEL.

A. An unfeigned love of the brethren, a truly dedicated life (this is the 1 Peter epistle).
   1. Rom. 12
   2. Mat. 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
   3. 2 Tim. 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”
      a. When we have a dedicated life we will suffer
      b. 1 Pet. 4:15-16 “But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men’s matters. 16Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.”

B. Holiness 1 Pet. 1:15-16 “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”
   1. Our God is Holy.
      a. Psa. 145:17 “The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.”
b. Psa. 111:9 “He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.”

2. We are to be like God.
   a. 2 Pet. 1:4, 11 “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.... 11For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”
   b. Heb. 12:10 “For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.”

3. Holy
   a. Saint or sanctification comes from the same Greek word as Holy.
      (1) The Greek word is οἶγιος (hagios)
      (2) It means apart from the earth.
      (3) Compare the altars which were built above the earth.
   b. Application of holy to man.
      (1) Freed from sin.
         (a) Acts 2:14-38
         (b) Rom. 6:1-7 “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7For he that is dead is freed from sin.”
      (2) Dedicated, consecrated; Rom. 6:8-23 “Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 8Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 9For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 10Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 11Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 12Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 13For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 14What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 15Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 16But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 17Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. 18I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 19For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. 20What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. 21But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. 22For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
4. God calls us to Holiness.
a. we have a calling
   (1) Heb. 3:1 “Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;”
   (2) Eph. 4:1 “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,”
   (3) 2 Pet. 1:10 “Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:”
b. We are called by the gospel; 2 The. 2:14 “Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
5. 1 Cor. 1:1-2 “Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:”
a. Sanctified in Christ, called to be saints.
b. How we get into Christ.
   (1) Rom. 6:3-4 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ we baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
   (2) Gal. 3:26-27 “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
6. Even though we are holy, we are still sinners.
a. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God:”
b. 1 John 1:8, 10 “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.... If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”
7. Even though we sin as long as we walk in the light the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin; 1 John 1:4-2:2 “And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

C. Love one Another
1. Unfeigned means sincere, true.
a. When one is baptized, he has an immediate love of the brethren.
b. This is what the world is looking for.
2. There is a play on words.
a. First love from φιλος (philos).
   (1) This is a noun form.
   (2) It is tender affection, a cherishing of the object above all else.
b. Second love is αγαπω (agapao).
   (1) This is a verbal form.
   (2) It means an affection which is prompted to act.
3. Examples of \(\alpha\gamma\alpha\pi\alpha\omega\) (\textit{agapao}).

a. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

b. 1 John 4:9-10 “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. \textit{Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”}

c. Rom. 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

d. Gal. 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

e. Eph. 5:25 “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;”

4. Our love for God.

a. John 14:15, 21-23 “If ye love me, keep my commandments.... \textit{He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”

b. 1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”

c. 2 John 6 “And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.”

5. Our love for others.

a. John 13:34-35 “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you one another. \textit{By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”}

b. John 15:12-13 “This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. \textit{Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”}

6. 1 Cor. 13:

a. Necessity for love; vv. 1-3 “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become \textit{as} sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. \textit{And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. \textit{And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”}

b. Characteristics of love; vv. 4-8a “Charity suffereth long, \textit{and is} kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, \textit{Doth not} behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; \textit{Rejoiceth} not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; \textit{Beareth} all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. \textit{Charity never faileth:}

c. Eternality of love; vv. 8b-13 “but whether \textit{there be} prophecies, they shall fail; whether \textit{there be} tongues, they shall cease; whether \textit{there be} knowledge, it shall vanish away. \textit{For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. \textit{But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. \textit{When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. \textit{For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. \textit{And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.}”}
D. Practical Applications.

1. Purity of life.
   a. 1 Pet. 2:1 “Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisy, and envy, and all evil speakings,”
   b. 1 Pet. 2:11 “Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

2. A desire for spiritual food (growth): the Word of God; 1 Pet. 2:2 “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”

3. 1 Pet. 2:5-10 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”
   a. A spiritual house; 1 Tim. 3:15 “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”
   b. A holy (royal) priesthood.
   c. A peculiar people.

   a. 1 Pet. 2:13 “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;”
   b. Rom. 13:1-7 “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God’s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.”

5. Honor (Value) all men.
   b. Jude 9 “Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”

6. Husband wife relations.
   a. 1 Pet. 3:1-7 “Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives: While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving
honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”

b. Eph. 5:22-33 “Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 22For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 23Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 24Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it. 25That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. 26That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 27So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 28For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 29For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 30For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife reverence her husband.”

7. Gentleness (gentlemanly); 1 Pet. 3:8 “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous;”

8. Prepared for God.
   a. 1 Pet. 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear;”
   b. Cf., 2 Tim. 4:2 “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

9. Use of our abilities.
   a. 1 Pet. 4:10-11 “As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”
   b. Cf., Rom. 12:4-8 “For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 4Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.”

10. Elder-member relations.
    a. 1 Pet. 5
    b. 1 Tim. 3
    c. Tit. 1
    d. 1 The. 5:12-13 “And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”

11. Suffering when we are truly dedicated; 1 Pet. 1-5
    a. 1 Pet. 2:21; 4:15-16 “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:... 16Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.”
    b. Mat. 5:10-12 “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12Rejoice, and be
exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”

c. Mat. 10:24 “The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.”
d. Phi. 1:29 “For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;”
e. 2 The. 1:4-5 “So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: 5 Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:”

V. URGENCY OF THE GOSPEL
A. We are all going to die.
   1. Heb. 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”
   2. 2 Sam. 14:14 “For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him.”

B. We do not know when we will die.
   1. Job 14:1 “Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.”
   2. Jam. 4:14 “Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

Conclusion: The brevity of life should lead us to embrace this gospel now; 2 Cor. 6:2 “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)” Heb. 3:7-8 “Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:”