

- f) Paul The Apostle - Acts 19:8, NIV – (8) *Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.* Acts 28:30-31, NIV – (30) *For two whole years Paul ...* (31) *Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.*

WE MUST SPEAK – AND OUR MESSAGE MUST BE THE KINGDOM

- Luke 16:16, NIV – (16) *The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.*
- John was the last “evangelist” of the law. We are to be “evangelists” of the GOOD NEWS – The GOSPEL of THE KINGDOM OF GOD – and it is such a good message, that when people really understand it, they will want to force their way into it!
- The 1st Century Christians never preached the gospel of salvation, offering people simply a get out of hell free card, or a ticket to heaven.
- Instead, they preached the gospel of the Kingdom: Righteousness before God, internal peace, and joy-filled encounters with the Holy Spirit, through daily walking in the resurrection power and life of Christ

S.H.E.A.R. FORCE

Part 1 – The Saving Church – Part 1

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REVIEW

- Salvation, healing, equipping, activation, and release
- SHEAR FORCE (physics) is an internal force in an object, caused by an external force acting perpendicular to the object, which tends to cause the material to change shape.
- Ephesians 2:10, NIV – (10) *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

SALVATION CLARIFIED

1. The Reality – God Is A Holy Lover

- a) God's Essence Is Love - 1 John 4:16, NIV – (16) *And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.*
- b) God Longs For Relationship - John 17:20-23, NIV – (20) *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, (21) that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. (22) *I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: (23) I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.**
- c) God's Love Moves Him To Act - John 3:16, NIV (16) *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son ...”*

2. Our Problem – The Consequence Of Sin

- a) All Have Sinned - Romans 5:12, NIV – (12) *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.* Romans 3:23, NIV – (23) *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
- b) God Is Holy - Leviticus 11:44, NIV – (44) *I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy.*
- c) Sin Makes Us “Unholy” - Hebrews 12:14, NIV – (14) ... *be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.*
- d) Sin Causes Us To Go Our Own Way - Isaiah 53:6, NIV – (6) *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way ...*
- e) Sin Separates Us From God - Isaiah 59:2, NIV – (2) *But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.* Colossians 1:21, NIV – (21) ... *you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.*
- f) The Result Of Sin Is Spiritual Death (Separation From God) - Romans 6:23, NIV – (23) *For the wages of sin is death*

3. God’s Solution - Jesus

- a) The Solution Was Initiated By God - Romans 5:6-8, NIV (6) ... *at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ... (8) But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- b) Jesus Died To Ransom Us From Captivity - Mark 10:45, NIV – (45) *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

- i. Righteous – made righteous in God’s eyes, no need for guilt, shame or condemnation
 - ii. Peace – peace with God, peace with self
 - iii. Joy in the Holy Spirit – daily experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit in every aspect of life
- 1 Corinthians 4:20, NIV – (20) *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.*
 - Power to change, power to live, power to serve
- ## 5. Our Message Is To Be The Gospel Of The Kingdom Of God
- a) Jesus – Early Ministry - Luke 4:43, NIV – (43) *But he [Jesus] said, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”* Matthew 12:28, NIV – (28) *But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.*
 - b) Apostles - Luke 9:1-2, NIV – (1) *When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, (2) and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.*
 - c) Early Disciples - Luke 10:1,9, NIV – (1) *After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ... (9) Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God is near you.’*
 - d) Jesus – Last Ministry On Earth - Acts 1:3, NIV – (3) *After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.*
 - e) Philip The Evangelist - Acts 8:12, NIV – (12) *But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*

- c) The Gospel Is About Experiencing God's Life - 1 John 5:11-12, NIV – (11) *And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. (12) He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 1 John 5:20, NIV – (20) ... And we are in him who is true - - even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.*
- d) The Gospel Is About The Power Of God For Transformation - Romans 1:16-17, NIV – (16) *I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (17) For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith ... Colossians 1:6, NIV – (6) ... All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth.*
- e) The Gospel Is About Freedom - Colossians 2:13-17, NIV – (13) *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, (14) having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. (15) And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (16) Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. (17) These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.*
- f) The Gospel Is The Good News Of The Kingdom Of God - Matthew 10:7, NIV – (7) *As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven [God] is near.' Romans 14:17, NIV – (17) For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

- c) Jesus' Death Restored Us To Right Relationship - Romans 5:10, NIV – (10) *For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*
- d) Jesus' Death Made Us Right And Holy In God's Eyes - 1 Corinthians 1:30, NIV – (30) *It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God -- that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Colossians 1:22, NIV – (22) ... He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation ..*
- 4. OUR RESPONSE**
- a) Repent Of Your Sins - Acts 3:19, NIV – (19) *Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out ...*
- b) Receive And Confess Jesus As Lord - Romans 10:9-10, NIV – (9) *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. John 1:12, NIV – (12) Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*
- c) Accept Jesus' Death And Resurrection As The Payment For Your Sins

CLARIFICATIONS / CORRECTIONS

1. Hell Was Not Created For People

- a) There Are Only Two Spiritual Kingdoms - Colossians 1:13-14, NIV – (13) *For he has rescued us from the dominion [kingdom] of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, (14) in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

- b) We Are All Citizens Of Only One Kingdom - Ephesians 2:19, NIV – (19) *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household. Mark 10:45, NIV – (45) *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**
- c) As Citizens, Our Name Is Written In The Book Of Life - Philippians 4:3, NIV – (3) *... my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.*
- d) Hell Is For The Devil And His Kingdom - Revelation 20:10, 14, NIV – (1) *And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. ... (14) Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.*
- e) Your Destiny Is Determined By Your Citizenship - Revelation 20:15, NIV – (15) *If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

2. Since Jesus' Death, Our Sins No Longer Determine Our Eternity

- a) Jesus Died For The Sins Of The Whole World - 2 Corinthians 5:19, NIV – (19) *... God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 1 John 2:2, NIV – (2) *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.**
- b) Relationship With Jesus Is Now The Only Factor In Our Salvation - John 3:36, NIV – (36) *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him. 1 Thessalonians 5:9, NIV – (9) *For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:9, NIV – (9) *Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!***

3. Salvation Is Determined Solely By Your Relationship With Jesus

- a) The Gospel Is All About Jesus - Mark 1:1, NIV – (1) *The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Romans 1:9, NIV – (9) *God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you**
- b) Satan Tries To Keep Us From Seeing Jesus As The Centre Of The Gospel - 2 Corinthians 4:4, NIV – (4) *The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*
- c) Salvation Is About Christ In You - Colossians 1:27, NIV – (27) *To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. John 17:3, NIV – (3) *Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.**

4. The Gospel Is Much Bigger Than Salvation

- a) The Gospel Is The Gospel Of The Kingdom Of God - Matthew 24:14, NIV – (14) *And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Luke 9:1-6, NIV – (1) *When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, (2) and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ... (6) *So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.***
- b) The Gospel Offers Many Blessings To Us - 1 Corinthians 9:23, NIV – (23) *I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. Ephesians 3:6, NIV – (6) *This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.**