

# “Gospel Package... Per Paul”

a.k.a.

## Comprehensive Christianity

(Acts 17-19; I&II Thessalonians; 1 Corinthians 1-8)

**Intro:** Building & Builder illustration...

**T/S:** To “get” the gospel package... and comprehend comprehensive Christianity... you need to have a reliable, biblical blue-print...

One must understand the Gospel’s:

1. Maker
2. Mission
3. Message
4. Ministry
5. Measure

**MAKER** = (everything always... begins w/ Creator God)

**Providence...** 1 Thess. 4:3-12 = “This is **God’s will** for you, **your sanctification**”

**Calling...** 1 Thess. 4:7 = “God has called us for holiness, not impurity.”

**Consequences...** 1 Thess. 4:8 = “*if you reject this, you are not rejecting me... you are rejecting God!*”

**Election...** 2 Thess. 2:13 = “*God chose you... to be saved thru sanctification, by the Spirit... and belief in the truth.*”

**Mercy...** 2 Thess. 2:14 = “**He called you thru our gospel...** that you would obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**Peace...** 2 Thess. 3:16 = “may **the Lord of peace give you peace** at all times & in every way.”

**Faithful...** 1 Cor. 1:9 = “**God is faithful** by whom you were **called into the fellowship** of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

# MISSION = Gospel Reaching

**Go...** Paul's 3 missionary journeys... (passion, persecution, proclamation)

Acts 19:10 = Paul ministered ***“so that ALL residents in Asia heard the Word of the Lord.”***

**Called...** 1 Thess. 2:4 = “approved by God & entrusted with the gospel

Acts 18:9-10 = “don't be afraid or silent... **I (God) am with you...**”

Acts 18:6 = “He shook out his garments (when rejected)... and Paul said: **“Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent.”**

**Passion...** Acts 18:5 = “**occupied with the Word**, testifying... Jesus is Christ”

1 Thess. 2:2 = “**boldness to declare the gospel in persecution**”

Acts 17:16 = Paul's “**spirit was provoked...** by the **city full of idols.**”

**Purpose...** Acts 18:11 = “He stayed... **Teaching the Word of God** to them”

Save the “religious” from their religion...

Acts 17:22 = “...you are very religious...”  
(after noticing the objects of their worship)

Acts 17:21 = “...they spend all their time on something new”

**Reverence...** 1 Corinthians 3:7 = “...neither planter nor waterer matter...  
**God brings the increase**

# MESSAGE = Gospel Preaching

1. Priority of Preaching
2. Point of Preaching
3. Power of Preaching
4. Passion in Preaching
5. Proclamation in Preaching
  - A. Daily living...
  - B. Eternal preparations...
  - C. Watch out for wolves

## **Priority of Preaching...**

1 Cor. 1:17 = “...*Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power*”

## **Point of Preaching...**

1 Cor. 2:4-5 = “...*my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith would not rest in the wisdom of men but on the power of God.*”

Acts 17:18 = Paul “was **preaching Jesus & the resurrection**”

1 Corinthians 1:23 = “*We preach Christ-crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Greeks.*”

## **Power of Preaching...**

1 Cor. 1:18 = “*For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those of us being saved, it is the power of God.*”

## **Passion in Preaching...**

Acts 19:8 = Paul “**spoke boldly... reasoning & persuading them...**”

## **Proclamation in Preaching...** (Preaching Proclaims God's Truth in Love)

- A. Proclamation... for "Daily Living"
- B. Proclamation... for "Eternal Preparations"
- C. Proclamation... for "Watching out for Wolves"

Acts 17:2-3 = Paul "**reasoned & explained the Scriptures...**"

### **A. DAILY LIVING:**

**Courage...** 2 Thess. 2:15 = "***Brothers, stand firm & hold to the truth we taught you***"

**Prayer...** 2 Thess. 3:1 = "Brothers, pray for us... that the Word will go out... that we will be delivered from wicked, evil men."

**Responsibility...** 2 Thess.3:6-15 = (Commanded not to be idle Busy-Bodies)

"Those who don't work, don't eat"

"Anyone who does not obey this teaching... Have nothing to do with them."

"Treat them with warning as a brother... (as opposed to) an enemy."

"Don't grow weary in doing good."

**Unity....** 1 Corinthians 1:10 = "I appeal to you... that you all agree... that there be no division among you... be united... in mind & judgment."

**Wake-Up...** 1 Corinthians 2:18 = "Let no one deceive himself..." (means some do!)

**Surrender...** 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 = "***...you are not your own... You were bought with a price... Therefore, honor God with your body...***"

**Sex & Divorce...** 1 Corinthians ch.7 = (teaching on marriage relations...)

**Clarity....** 1 Corinthians 7:19 = "*Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts.*"

**Specific Instructions** (1 Thess. 5:12-22)

**Pastoral support...** *brothers, respect those who labor among you & are over you in the Lord & admonish you, esteem them very highly in love because of their work.*

**Harmonize...** *Be at peace among yourselves.*

**Encourage....** *encourage the fainthearted,*

**Help...** *help the weak,*

**Patience...** *be patient with them all.*

**Forgiveness....** *See that no one repays anyone evil for evil,*

**Consistency...** *always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.*

**Celebrate...** *5:16 = Rejoice always,*

**Prayer...** *5:17 = pray without ceasing,*

**Appreciation...** *5:18 = give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

**Anointed...** *5:19 Do not quench the Spirit.*

**Listen...** *20 Do not despise prophecies,*

**Shrewdness...** *21 test everything;*

**Cling...** *hold fast (to) what is good.*

**Abstinence...** *22 Abstain from every form of evil.*

## **B. ETERNAL PREPARATIONS:**

**Rapture...** *1 Thess. 4:16-17 = describing Christ's return & rapture....*

**Hope...** *1 Thess. 4:18 = "Therefore, encourage one another with these words."*

**Lost...** *1 Cor. 2:14 = "the natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit because they are spiritually discerned... Instead, such things are foolishness to him..."*

**Empathy...** 1 Cor. 6:11 = "...such were some of you" (NOTE: gospel changed)

**Shock!...** 1 Thess. 5:2-3 = *the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them... and they will not escape...*

**Preparation...** 1 Thess. 5:8 = *let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.*

**Grace...** 1 Thess. 5:9-10 = *For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that... we might live with him.*

**Disciple...** 1 Thess. 5:11 = *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

**Confront...** 1 Cor. 3:1 = *"I could not address you as spiritual, but as people of flesh..."*

**Identify...** 1 Cor. 3:2-3 = ... you are filled with "jealousy and strife among you..."

**Accountability...** 1 Cor. 3:8 = *"each will receive his/her wages according to their labor"*

**Status...** 1 Cor. 3:9 = *"We are God's fellow workers, you are His field..."*

**Evaluation...** 1 Cor. 3:13-15 = *"each one's work... will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. 14 If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire."*

**Indwelt...** 1 Cor. 3:16-17 = *Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ...For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.*

**Wisdom...** 1 Corinthians 3:18 = *Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise...*

## C. WATCH OUT FOR WOLVES:

**Beware!...** 2 Thess. 2:3 = *"Let no one deceive you in any way..."*

**Deception...** 2 Thess. 2:10 = *warning about the “wicked deception... of those perishing because they refused to love the truth and be saved.”*

**Damned...** 2 Thess. 2:12 = *“...condemned... = those who do not believe the truth, but (rather) take pleasure in unrighteousness.”*

## MINISTRY = “Hands-On” Gospel Teaching

**Ministers...** 1 Cor. 4:1-6 = *1 This is how one should regard us, as ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 3 ...with me I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court... 6 ...learn from us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up...*

**Substance (vs. style)...** 1 Cor. 2:1-2 = *...brothers, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.*

**Perspective...** Acts 19:26-27 (Ephesians Riot) = *26 ...you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia (Amen!) He says that man-made gods are no gods at all (go-figure...) 27 There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited (to the glory of God!), and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty (Paul is taking down the false gods!)”*

**Truth...** 1 Thessalonians 2:3b-6a = *“...we were not trying to trick you. 4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. 5 You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. 6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.*

**Nurture...** 1 Thessalonians 2:6b-8 = *As apostles... we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. 8 We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.*

**Witness...** 1 Thessalonians 2:10 = *“we were holy, righteous, & blameless...”*

**Disciples...** 1 Thessalonians 2:13 = *we were thanking God for hearers who obey...*

**Forewarned**... 1 Thessalonians 3:2-4 = *We sent Timothy... to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, 3 so that no one would be **unsettled by these trials**. You know quite well that we were destined for them. 4 In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted...*

**Light**... 2 Thess. 1:11 = “We always pray for you... that the Lord will be glorified in you”

**Multiply**... Acts 18:23 = Paul went... “from one place to another **strengthening the disciples.**”

**Conduit**... Acts 19:5-6 = Paul lays hands on people in-dwelt by the Holy Spirit...

**Love**... 1 Thess. 2:11-12 = “...like a father to his children...” Paul would EXHORT, ENCOURAGE, & CHARGE you to WALK in a manner WORTHY of God.”

**Pastor**... 1 Thess. 4:1 = “...***I urge you, how you should walk to please God... I (Paul) urge you (those who do good) to do so more & more.***”

**Invest**... 1 Cor. 2:6 = “***We impart wisdom among the mature***”

**“BE”**... Acts 17:16-17 = “reasoned in the synagogue & marketplace everyday”

**Missional**... Acts 18:4 = Paul “reasoned & tried to persuade Jews and Greeks”

**Family**... 1 Corinthians 1:4 = “I always thank God for you”

**Dedication**... 1 Corinthians 7:35 = “*I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you will live in a right way, **in undivided devotion** to the Lord.*”

**Righteous**... 1 Corinthians 8:9-13 (Don’t use your Rights in Un-Righteous ways)

**9 Be careful... that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak... brother, for whom Christ died, (who can then be)... destroyed by your knowledge. 12 When you sin against brothers in this way and wound his weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.**

**Miracles**... Acts 19:11 = “God was doing extraordinary miracles” thru Paul

**Respect**... Acts 19:15 = “***Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?***”  
(Identity Problem!)

**Effective**... Acts 19:26-27 (**Ephesians Riot**) = 26 ...*you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray (away from pagan idol worshipping) large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia (Amen!) He says that man-made gods are no gods at all 27 There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great*

*goddess Artemis will be discredited (to the glory of God!), and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty (Paul is taking down the false gods!)”*

T/S: Paul Describes/Defines Biblical Church

**Ekklesia...** 1 Corinthians 1:2 = *“To the ekklesia of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours”*

## MEASURE:

- A. Acts 17:6 = *“these men turned the world upside-down”*
- B. **Contrast....** Corinth & Thessalonica...

### Corinth sampling...

1 Cor. 5:1-13 = *there is immorality among you... 2 And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this? 6a Your boasting is not good.... 6b Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole loaf? 7 Clean out (get rid of) the old yeast so that you may be a new loaf....*

*NOTE: Paul's PURGING for PURITY...*

*9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; 10 I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. 11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? **Do you not judge those who are within the church?** 13 **But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.***

### Thessalonica sampling...

1 Thess. 1:2-3 = *We continually remember... A). your **work of faith**, B). your **labor of love**, and C). your **hopeful endurance** in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thess. 1:6-8 = *You became **imitators of us and of the Lord**; in spite of severe suffering, you **welcomed the message** with the **joy** given by the Holy Spirit. 7 And so **you became a model to***

*all the believers... 8 The Lord's message rang out from you... your faith in God has become known everywhere"*

1 Thess. 2:13 = *when you received the word of God, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe*

## **CLOSE:**

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4...      *Paul to the Thessalonians*

=

*Pastor Jeff to THE BRIDGE*

*2 Thess. 1:3 = We... thank God for you, brothers... because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is growing. 4 Therefore, among God's churches we speak proudly about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. 5 All this is evidence that... you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.*

**Praise God...**

**Our FAITH is growing...**

**LOVE is intensifying & unifying...**

**Endurance & Perseverance are bearing fruit!**

**ALL to the glory of God...      Amen & Amen!!!**

## **Lets Pray!**