

The Provision, Proclamation, Privilege, and Purpose of the Good News

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:1-7.

B. In Christ the believer has treasure beyond imagination. This is the good news.

C. The good news is preached. It contains promise. The person of the good news is Christ. (Matthew 5:17, Matthew 3, 12:31, Luke 4:1, John 3:34, Philippians 2)

1. Christ was fully man and fully God. (Matthew 7:24)

2. We cannot fully grasp the mystery of this. (Mark 4:5)

II. The provision of the good news.

A. The good news gives grace (conversion) and Apostleship (vocation).

B. Grace.

1. Grace is unmerited favor received by belief. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

2. We are not saved by works. (Romans 3:24, 5:25)

3. Grace is the first provision of the gospel.

C. Apostleship.

1. It can refer to any gospel messenger. (Hebrews 1:3)

2. This is not referring to the Apostles who were leaders of the church. (Romans 16:7, Acts 14:14)

3. We are created for good works. (Ephesians 2:10)

III. The proclamation of the good news. (Romans 16:26)

A. Faith is obedient.

B. We are not saved by works; we are saved unto works.

C. Faith that obeys is the only genuine faith.

D. An obedient faith leads to salvation. (Romans 1:8, 16:19, 10:9-10, Hebrews 12:13)

IV. The privilege of the good news.

A. The believer is beloved of God, called and considered a saint.

B. God loved us. (Ephesians 2:5, I John 3:1, Ephesians 1:6, Romans 5, 8)

C. God called us to salvation. (Romans 9-10, Isaiah 45, 55, Ezekiel 33, Matthew 11, John 7, Revelation 22, Romans 10)

D. Believers are saints—set apart—by virtue of what God has done. (Exodus 19:6)

V. The purpose of the good news: everything focuses on the glory of God. (II John 7, Philippians 2, II Corinthians 4:15)

Application questions:

1. What does it mean that we become apostles after receiving the gospel?

2. What is the relationship between faith and works as outlined by the speaker?

3. Why is it important for the believer to reflect on the privileges he has received in Christ? Explain.
