

THREE GREAT BLESSINGS OF THE GOSPEL

By Keith Greer

Let's briefly examine some blessings to be derived from the gospel.

Remission of sins. "To Him give all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins." {Acts 10:43} By obeying the gospel of Christ we can gain remission from our sins. This is the message Christ sent the apostles to preach {Luke 24:44-47}. On the first Pentecost, following the Lord's resurrection, the message to the Jews gathered in Jerusalem was "repentance and remission of sins." {Acts 2:38}

Reconciliation to God. "That is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." {2 Corinthians 5:19,20} Sin separates man from God {Isaiah 59:1,2}. Sin breaks man's fellowship with God {I John 1:7}. Alien sinners who obey the gospel are again reconciled to God.

Breaking the bondage of sin. "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." {Hebrews 2:14,15} While man was a slave to sin, Satan had a hold over him. Death was the end result of sin, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." {Romans 6:23}. Since all have sinned, death for all was inevitable {Romans 3:23}. Man was headed for eternal doom unless he could find a remedy for the sin problem. Could there be a greater problem in the lives of men than this?

The gospel message shows the sinner the way to break this "**death grip**" and be released from the death sentence. Many in the world believe the gospel message is foolishness. We know it is God's wisdom {1 Corinthians 1:18-23}. The gospel meaning is "good news". What greater news could come to the ears of men than the true knowledge that the death of Christ on the cross has now provided an answer to the sin problem? Have you received and availed yourselves of the gospel's blessings? ***