ACTS 1:1-11

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1 The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.



³ To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.



⁴ Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."



⁶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;



⁹ And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.



¹¹ They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."



What Is the Kingdom of God?



Just what is the kingdom of god—and when does it appear? Is it in heaven? Is it the British Empire? Is it the universal church? Is it the Millennium?



Is it "in the hearts of men" or merely the "good within each person"? Millions believe these popular ideas—yet they are ALL wrong! Unnecessary confusion and disagreement reign. Here is the Bible explanation made plain!



Here is the Bible explanation made plain!



What is the Gospel?



Jesus stated, "Repent you, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15).



Mark 1:1-15

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

² As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
"Behold, I send My messenger ahead of You,
Who will prepare Your way;

³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of the Lord,
Make His paths straight.'"



⁴ John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea was going out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁶ John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and his diet was locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he was preaching, and saying, "After me One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to stoop down and untie the thong of His sandals. 8 I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; 11 and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."



12 Immediately the Spirit *impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. 13 And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.



¹⁴ Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."



But just what is the gospel? Most never concern themselves with this question. The truth of the gospel has remained hidden from view to the vast majority of professing Christians. Ever since the first century there has been a conspiracy to deceive would-be Christians about the meaning of the gospel. Shocking as it seems, this has happened.



Most believe that the gospel is about the Person of Jesus Christ, Certainly, Christ's role is enormous, but He is not the gospel. The Bible shows that Jesus Christ is preached in conjunction with the gospel.



Others proclaim a "gospel of salvation" or "gospel of grace." Still others believe a "gospel of miracles" or a "social gospel" or a "gospel of foods" or of "healing" or "faith." There are also those who merely think of "gospel music" when the word gospel comes to mind. These are all man-made ideas that are not what the Bible says!



Notice Mark's account once again! "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God." That is the gospel Jesus preached. It was in this context that He had said, "Repent you, and believe the gospel." What gospel?—of the "kingdom of god."



Verse one refers to this very message when it says, "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ." The gospel of Jesus Christ was about the kingdom of god-not something else! One must believe and understand that gospel to be saved—not a counterfeit or substitute.



We Have A Strong Warning Not to Pervert Gospel

