

Gospel Understanding Assessment

What is the Gospel?

The gospel is amazing, wonderful, powerful, deep and impossible to fully describe in a few short sentences. In spite of this, I believe it is more valuable to have some insight into our understanding of the gospel than to have none because of unwillingness to create a reasonable (but not perfect) list of essentials that we can use to access understanding.

Paul summarizes the gospel in

1 Corinthians 15:1-4:

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

And in Romans 3:19–26

[19] Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. [20] For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. [21] But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—[22] the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: [23] for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24] and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25] whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. [26] It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

This passage and others were used to develop this response assessment. A total of 6 is accessed as a maximum based on the following scale:

[points] Statement about the gospel

[1] God is holy, man is sinful (Romans 3:10,23) so man is separated from God
(include something about the consequences of sin)

[2] Jesus died (paid the penalty for our sins /ransomed us/bore our sins)
(Gal 2:20, Rom 5:8, 1 Peter 3:18)

[1] Jesus rose again (1 Cor 15:4)

[2] We can receive/trust/accept (John 1:12) the free gift of salvation (Eph 2:8-9) through faith and repentance (Romans 10:9)