

# **The First Baptist Church of Columbus**

**Dr. Paul Large, Pastor**

## **Sermon Notes Outline for video posted February 27, 2022**

The following outline is that of Evangelism Explosion created by the D. James Kennedy Ministry in 1962. The pastor, in an attempt to get back to basics used it to explain salvation to the congregation. The congregation was encouraged to make sure of their own salvation as well as know the gospel confidently enough to share it with others.

**2 Corinthians 13:5** ---- **5** Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?

### **T I T L E: THE GOSPEL**

### **T E X T: Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5**

How well do you understand it and do you understand it well enough to share it with others?

Q1 — Have you come to the place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that if you were to die today you would go to heaven?

**1 John 5:13** ---- These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Q2 — Suppose you were to die today and stand before God and He said to you “Why should I let you into my heaven? What would you say?”

A works answer in response to this question is not uncommon even among church members.

### **I. THE GOSPEL**

#### **A. Grace**

1. Heaven is a gift — Romans 6:23
2. It (heaven) is not earned or deserved.  
Ephesians 2:8–9 ---- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

The magnitude of this gift can be understood more clearly when we understand what the Bible says about man.

### **B. Man...**

1. ...is a sinner. Romans 3:23 (in action, in attitude, by nature)

Sin can be defined as falling short of the target.

2. ...cannot save himself. (Perfection)

Proverbs 14:12

This comes into sharper focus when we look at what the Bible says about God.

### **C. God...**

1. ...is merciful — therefore does not want to punish us for our sin.

1 John 4:8b

2. ...is just — therefore must punish us.

### **Exodus 34:7**

If the Lord ever created a problem for Himself this would be it. He solved this problem in the person of Jesus Christ.

### **D. Christ**

1. Who He is (Whom do you think Christ is?)

John 1:1 ---- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 ---- And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 20:28 ---- Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

2. What He did... (died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and arose from the grave...)

Isaiah 53:6

## **E. Faith**

1. Key to heaven is called saving faith.
2. What it is not... mere intellectual assent/ or mere temporal faith

James 2:19

3. What it is... trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation

**Conclusion:** You have just heard the greatest story ever told about the greatest person who ever lived. The question He is asking you today is "Would you like to commit your life to Christ today?"