

What is the Good News?**Peter's description**

(1 Peter 1:3 – 25)

- 3 **Hope**
 4 of heaven
 5 of being “kept” by the power of God
 6 **Joy**
 7 despite suffering
 8 through the successes of faith
 10 **Evidence**
 11 of being well planned
 12 culminating in us

What is the Good News?**Peter's description**

(1 Peter 1:3 – 25)

- 13 **Overcoming**
 14 through grace
 17 on earth, as a tourist
 22 through the Spirit
 23 in sincere love
 23 **Transformed**
 24 through the Word
 25 (the thought processes of God)

What is the Good News?**Gospel of the Kingdom**

(Matthew 4:23, 9:35, 24:14, Mark 1:15, Luke 4:43, 8:1, 9:2 – 6, Acts 20:24 – 25).

- The eternal Kingdom of God was a “witness” (Matthew 24:14) to all the nations.
- Two applications.
 - God fulfills His promises.
 - God governs the world.
- This would be good news to all living under self-serving governments (which, to greater or lesser degree, characterizes all governments). The appeal is to look beyond physical existence.

What is the Good News?**The poor have the gospel preached to them**

(Matthew 11:5, Luke 4:18, 7:22).

Jesus cited this fact as a hallmark of the gospel and a fulfillment of a prophecy of Isaiah. Historically, the poor have been the prey of religion. The good news is that God includes all of society in His Kingdom (Mark 13:10, 16:15, Acts 15:7, Ephesians 3:16).

What is the Good News?**The gospel of grace**

(Acts 14:3 – 7, 14:15 – 22, 20:24 - 32, Galatians 1:6 – 11, Philippians 1:7).

In most religions, the point is to manipulate the god, either to purchase favor or avoid wrath. The unmerited favor (grace) of God is good news in that God is good, has our best interests in mind, is not spiteful or capricious, and truly cares about us as individuals.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of reality**

(Romans 1:1 – 6, 1 Corinthians 15:1 – 4, Galatians 2:14, Ephesians 1:13, Colossians 1:5, 1 Thessalonians 1:5, 2 Timothy 2:8)

The good news is that this religion is based on evidence, not legend, philosophy, or fanaticism.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of salvation by faith**
(Romans 1:15 – 17, 2:16)

Preaching that God forgives is not in itself good news. Paul's gospel was based on faith, not that God simply passed over sin (a rejection of justice and the nature of God). This is particularly good news to those who can see through performance-based religion. Then the question becomes the nature of faith.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of planning**
(Romans 11:28, 2 Corinthians 4:3)

God is not just reacting to what people do. He has a plan that is understandable to the faithful.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of glory**
(2 Corinthians 4:4, 2 Thessalonians 2:14, 1 Timothy 1:11)

The objective is to have the character of Jesus, who is the image of God. Glory is the honor that accrues to an individual as the result of great accomplishment, creativity, or character.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of peace**
(Ephesians 6:15)

Life is not intended to be a struggle with God, but peace with God.

What is the Good News?**The gospel of hope**
(Colossians 1:23, 2 Timothy 1:10, Hebrews 4:2 – 6)

This is an assured hope, not a feeble hope. This hope encompasses all of the above ideas; God is in control; we are not adrift.

What is the Good News?**Summary**

- **Hope**
- **Joy**
- **Evidence**
- **Overcoming**
- **Transformation**
- **The Kingdom**
- **For the poor**
- **Grace**
- **Saved by faith**
- **Planning**
- **Glory**
- **Peace**