

Essential Gospel

Nature is what something is about, its constitution, essential ingredient, what it is, as in the nature of math, a dog, a cow, a human being, iron, gold.

Does nature change? No. A dog's nature has not changed even though man has tried to change it. As soon as it is out of your house it does the same things it has always done. There are different species, but all have a dog nature. A dog is a dog because it is a dog. Man's nature has not changed either. He has the same nature as always. Human nature is basic. Nature is the essence of something — the essential qualities that constitute a thing, its essential make up.

What is the constitution of a church? Of a nation? Has the nature of Germany changed? Can a church's nature change? Has the nature of the church been the same down through 2000 years? Is it possible that the nature of a church can change? If it does change its nature, then it becomes something else. The nature of the first church is what the nature of the church should always be. But does the Roman Catholic church have the same nature as the first church? For that matter, are there any churches in Christianity that have the same nature as the first church? If the nature has changed, then it is not the church anymore.

Can the nature of the gospel change? If it does, then it is not the gospel, the good news. If someone preaches another gospel other than what the first apostles preached, why would he be cursed? How do you know he would be cursed? (Gal 1:6-8).

Is there another gospel with a different nature? No, not really. But people preach a "gospel" that does not have the same nature as the one that the apostle Paul preached. If a person preaches another gospel with a nature other than the one that the first apostles preached, who is he serving? The evil one. What makes him a servant of the evil one is that he is doing what the evil one says (2 Cor 11:4,14,15).

You can see the nature of the first church recorded in Acts (Acts 2:40-47; 4:32-35). If you do not see the same nature today in the churches, then it is not a church. What is it? A harlot. Why?

What is the essential nature of the gospel, the essential quality, the first thing about it? Where is it recorded?

[Someone answered: Mk 8:34; someone else said: Jn 3:16]

What is it that makes you believe that Jn 3:16 is the essential ingredient of the good news? What does it tell? It tells that God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, but the essential things are not in that verse. That one verse is not the gospel in a nutshell. What is essential in the presentation of the good news in a nutshell?

[Another person answered: Jn 3:17; someone else said: Acts 2:38]

The gospel is not contained in that verse.

[Someone else suggested: 2 Cor 5:15]

That verse does contain the two essential ingredients, but look at 1 Cor 15:1-4. There are the two essential ingredients:

a. Yahshua died for us, and

b. He rose again for us.

Then you can say that those who live no longer live for themselves but for Him (2 Cor 5:15).

"But the scripture has shut up all men under sin, that the promise by faith in Yahshua the Messiah might be given to those who believe..." (Gal 3:22). The promise is to be given to those who believe what? Rely upon what? Yahshua. For doing what? He died for the forgiveness of our sins and rose for our justification. If He had not risen, everything is useless. It says, "by FAITH." How does one get faith? He must hear the words. You cannot get faith except by hearing. Unless you have heard the good news, you do not have faith (Rom 10:8-16). How do we know that faith comes from hearing? It is recorded in Rom 10:17 and it happened to us. Somehow a man gains righteousness through believing in the heart — it leads to righteousness. Whoever believes in Him will not be ashamed, put to shame, disappointed; he shall not have reason to feel ashamed (Rom 10:11; Isa 28:16).

Jn 3:16 says that we must believe in Him but does not say what He did. It goes on to say, though, that God did not send His Son to condemn the world because it is already condemned. That judgment is based on verse 19 — that the light came into the world and men loved the darkness more than the light because their deeds were evil. Therefore the reason people do not come to the gospel, to the light, to Messiah, to the church is because their deeds are evil (Jn 3:19).

The bedrock foundation truth in which our salvation rests is in His Word. That is that He died and rose again. In presenting the good news, we should always present that which the apostles presented. In 1Cor 15 it says that He died and was buried and that He rose again on the third day. We have heard that all of our lives — everyone knows that He died and rose again, but still, we must preach that. We are the church, so that is what we will preach. In Acts 2:31-32, it was after they heard the essential gospel, then the many other words...

1 Cor 15:1 — “He died” means you do not have to die. He died for you. He rose from the dead, ascended to heaven, appeared to His disciples, to Peter and then the twelve (not Judas, probably Mattheas), then to 500 brethren, most of whom remained until 50 AD (others had fallen asleep). Then He appeared to James, then to all the “other” apostles. They were maybe the 70 apostles who were sent out in twos; there were not just twelve apostles; there were many. Christianity says there were only twelve (Lk 24:33,47).

You can see in Jn 5:24 how we pass out of death and into life: “He who hears my words and believes Him who sent Me has passed out of death into life.” That is absolutely fact. If we believe in Him we have passed out of death. But Paul talked about the possibility of believing in vain. 1 Jn 3:14 also has these words: “We know we have passed out of death because we love the brethren.” If we are not doing this, we have believed in vain. Then what we believed is only doctrine — merely intellect. So we see that Salvation is only received by people hearing the gospel. We should always proclaim the good news that our Master died and rose again and then build around those two things.

The Stone Kingdom is cut out of the world. No one can receive the Holy Spirit unless the gospel cuts their hearts. A person has to have the first cutting of circumcision of their heart in order that the Holy Spirit would enter their heart. It is through the gospel that a person’s heart is cut (Col 2:11-12; Acts 2:37-38). Cutting the heart, the first cut of circumcision, always precedes baptism (Dt 10:16). A stubborn resistance is in us until we are circumcised.

If you look at Rom 10 in the Eastern text, it says that a person believes with his heart and expresses with his mouth, his heart will experience righteousness and his mouth will experience life. So therefore, his mouth has brought him life through the believing in his heart. The Stone is cut out of the world only through the preaching of the good news. Paul said he was not ashamed of it (Rom 1:16). Through it, we bring people out of independence in the world into dependence on Messiah, trusting Him and believing in Him (Eph 1:13). The message of truth must be believed — this includes more than His death and resurrection, but did not exclude them because they are essential if one gives up his own life in baptism (Rom 6:4-5). Mk 8:34 cannot come before the essential ingredients which is the foundation.

There will be twelve places on the earth chosen by our Father where He will gather His people. Just like in the days of Noah, He is calling His people to get on the ark. The twelve tribes is the ark.

I believe with all my heart that many people are going to come out of Germany. Germany is in a state of confusion today. Our Father has selected wonderful first fruits, which the rest will be like.