

WHY TEACH CHRONOLOGICALLY?—BOOK 2

I. THE GOSPEL

- What is the Gospel?
- It is the “Good News.”

- What is the best news someone could give you?

- “You do not have to die!”
- “You do not need to die!”
- “You are not going to die!”

- If we only teach, however, that people are not going to die if they believe in Christ, they will not understand.

II. THREE FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS OF GOSPEL

- There are three foundational truths of the Gospel.

- First truth: God is extremely holy.
- Second truth: All people have sinned & must die.
- Third truth: Only God/Jesus can save us.

- These foundational truths must be taught **IN ORDER**.

- First, the holiness of God must be taught so that:
- Second, people will understand their sin so that:
- Third, they will run to Christ to be saved.

III. FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS OUT OF ORDER

- What happens if we teach the foundational truths out of order?

- People will not understand.
- People may also become a part of a false religion.

IV. TEACHING JESUS BEFORE TEACHING SIN?

- What happens if we teach about our Jesus before we teach about sin?
- The people will not understand our need for Jesus.

- This is a major reason why people do not want Jesus as their Savior.

- Because they do not understand that they need a savior.

- In America, when a Christian may tell someone that they need Jesus, people say this:

- “No, I do not need Jesus. I am fine.”

- If you think you are fine, will you look for someone you need to save you?
- No.

- Also in America, when a Christian may tell someone that Jesus is the answer, people say this:

-“I do not need an answer. I do not even have a question.”

-If you do not have a question, will you look for an answer?

-No.

-Why do people not understand that they need a savior?

-Some people do not believe that they sinned enough to need a Savior.

-Some people do not believe that sin is a problem.

-Some people do not even believe in sin.

-These people think that they are fine with no problems.

-Here is an illustration:

-If someone is sick, but they do not know it, will they go to a doctor?

-No.

-What must we do before we go to the doctor?

-We must understand that we are sick.

-We must understand that we need a doctor.

-What must we do before we run to Jesus?

-We must understand that we are sick with sin.

-We must understand that we need a Savior.

-Regarding Jesus and sin, here is an important truth:

-To be able to understand the importance of going to the doctor, we must first understand that we are sick.

-To be able to run to Jesus to be saved, we must first understand that we are sick with sin.

-This is why people can say that they do not need Jesus because they do not understand that they are sick with sin.

-Therefore, before we teach about the Savior, what must we teach?

-The need for the Savior.

V. TEACHING SIN BEFORE TEACHING HOLINESS?

-What happens if we teach about sin before we teach about the holiness of God?

-People will not see their sin.

-People will not understand that they have sinned against God.

-A major reason why people do not see their sin is because they do not understand the holiness of God.

-In America, when a Christian may tell someone that they are a sinner, people say this:

-“No, I’m not. I am a good person.”

-In America, people would say this:

“I’m OK, and you are OK.”

-Also, in America, when you are greeted, the response is this:

-“I’m good.”

-How can people think and say that they are good?

-When people compare themselves with one another, it is difficult to see our sin.

-This is because all people are the same, and we are all sinners.

-When you look at another person, you see little difference.

-What must happen for people to see their sin?

-We must see that which is completely different.

-In order to see our darkness, we need to see the light.

-Here is an example:

-A Christian was walking home from the market, and it became night.

-Because he was tired and it was very dark, he found a hut, went inside, and slept for the night.

-The next morning when the sun came up, he realized that he had slept in the witch doctor’s hut.

-People will not see the darkness of their sin until they see the light of the holiness of God.

-Here is another illustration:

-There are two pigs in a mud hole.

-One pig asks the other pig how he likes the mud hole.

-The other pig replies that he likes the mud hole so much that he wants to stay in the mud hole forever.

-This world is a mud hole of sin, and we all live in the mud hole of sin.

-When we compare ourselves with other people, it is difficult to see our sin because we are all sinners.

-Who is the only One who does not live in the mud hole of sin?

-God.

-When we compare ourselves with God, then we will see our mud and our sin.

-When we compare ourselves with God, then we will see that mud and sin are not normal.

-God did not create us to live in the mud hole of sin.

-God created us to be holy as He is holy.

-Regarding sin and the holiness of God, here is an important truth:

-To be able to understand our sin, we must first understand the holiness of God.

-This is why we must first teach of the holiness of God so that people can see their sin so that people can run to Christ.

VI. TEACHING GOD'S HOLINESS

A. The Holiness of God

-Our God is extremely holy.

-What is the definition of "holy"?

-The meaning of "holy" is difficult to understand because only God has always been completely holy.

-"Holy" means "set apart," "completely different," and also "totally pure without defect."

B. The Holiness of God as Foundational for all Truth

-The holiness of God is the foundation for all truth.

-Why?

-Without the holiness of God, we would have no sin.

-Without the holiness of God, we would not need a Savior.

-Because our God is extremely holy, we have sin.

-Because our God is extremely holy, we need a Savior to save us from sin.

C. To Learn of God's Holiness is our Greatest Need

-If people do not see God as holy, then they will never see their sin.

-If people do not see God as holy, then they will never see their need for salvation.

-The degree that we see the holiness of God is the same degree that we see our sin, and our need for Jesus.

-If we see the holiness of God a little, we see our sin only a little, and our need for Jesus only a little.

-If we see the holiness of God a lot, we see our sin a lot, and our need for Jesus a lot.

-Therefore, the key to teaching about God centers on the holiness of God.

D. The Holiness of God Taught in the Old Testament

-Where is the holiness of God best taught?

-In the stories of the Old Testament?

-In the story of Adam and Eve, they took only one bite from one fruit.

-How many people must die because of that one bite from that one fruit?

-All people.

-How many people are on the earth now?

-Approximately eight billion people.

-How many people have lived and died on earth?

-Approximately five billion people.

-Simple math: 8 billion + 5 billion = 13 billion.

-13 billion have died and will die because of one sin.

-Because our God is extremely holy, all people must die from this one sin.

-In the story of Noah, how many people were saved?

-Only Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their three wives.

-Only eight people.

-In the flood, how many people died?

-Everyone left on the earth—all people and all animals.

-Because our God is extremely holy, all people and all animals died except for those who were on the one boat.

-In the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, how many people were saved?

-Only Lot and his two daughters—three people.

-How many people in Sodom and Gomorrah were killed?

-Sodom and Gomorrah were two large cities, and there may have been as many as 60,000 people who were

killed.

-Because our God is extremely holy, everyone in Sodom and Gomorrah were killed except for three people.

-In Egypt, when God sent the tenth plague, how many of the Egyptians' first born children and first born animals died?

-All of them.

-No one survived.

-Because our God is extremely holy, all of the first born children and first born animals of the Egyptians died.

-When the Israelites were at Mount Sinai, why did God command Moses to build a fence around the mountain?

-Because God was coming down from heaven to the top of the mountain.

-What would happen if the Israelites or any of the animals would touch the mountain?

-They would immediately die.

-Because our God is extremely holy, if the Israelites or any animal would touch the mountain, they would immediately die.

-When Israel built the tabernacle, who could enter the Holy of Holies?

-Only the high priest, and only once a year, and only with the blood of a perfect animal.

-Because our God is extremely holy, if anyone else would enter the Holy of Holies they would die.

-Because our God is extremely holy, if the high priest would enter the Holy of Holies without blood, he would die.

-There are many more examples of the holiness of God in the Bible.

-You will find the holiness of God in every story of the Bible.

-Before our God, there is no small sin.

-Before our God, all sins merit death.

-Before our God, all sins must be paid for with death.

-This is because our God is extremely holy.

-If God does not punish every sin with death, then He would lose His holiness.

-To protect His holiness, God must punish every sin with death.