

The Gospel In 5 Seconds

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The Second Covenant
The Second Birth
The Second Coming
The Second Death
The Second Chance

Keeping these 5 things in mind is perhaps a good way to go about talking to somebody about the Gospel.

And if you think of it as looking at the Gospel in 5 Seconds I think we can do a good job in summarizing or giving an overview of God's plan for our soul's salvation.

The Second Covenant.

Ex. 19.

- God's desire for man has always been that man have a right relationship with him.
- The problem of sin began in the Garden of Eden.
 1. Where man did not abide by God's wishes, God's commands, God's desires.
 2. Man sinned.
- And ever since that time God put into action a plan for the reconciliation of man to himself.
 1. We could look at **Gen. 12, Gen. 15.**
 2. These passages all have to do with the promise to Abraham.
 3. The promise to Abraham does involve God's reconciling man to himself.
 4. But man has to meet God on God's terms.
- In the Bible there are 2 Great Covenants or Agreements between God and Man.
 1. They bind man to God.
 2. We call them the Old Testament and the New Testament.
 3. In **Ex. 19 and Deut. 5**
 - Ex. 19 is when the children of Israel first came out of Egypt. And they are at the base of Mount Sinai. God says to them in **vs. 5-6...**
- Because of their unfaithfulness they did not enter the Promised Land. And they were forced to wander for 40 years in the wilderness.
- **Deut. 5** Moses after those 40 years is now dealing with the generation that remained alive who was going to get to inherit the Promised Land. And Moses says this in **vs. 2-5...**
 1. So this covenant agreement that they entered into with God bound them to God.
- Now we turn to the New Testament in **Matt. 5** and the Sermon on the Mount.
 1. Jesus alludes to the fact that that covenant the Jews of his day were accustomed to and lived under was going to be brought to completion keeping with **Jer. 31.31.**

And in the Sermon on the Mount in **Matt. 5.17,18** Jesus did not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

1. To bring to its complete end.
2. What purpose did it serve?
3. In **Gal. 3.19** Paul says that the law, particularly that first covenant, the Old Law helped define sin and define people as sinners.
4. God implemented this covenant to bind man to himself so men would understand how God would have him to live.
5. But that covenant was only for the Jews, at least the first covenant. This brings us down to **Gal.23-27**. This is referring to the "**Second Covenant**" which you and I are under.

This baptism of course is going to lead us into our second "Second".

- This Second Covenant was necessary to encompass all of mankind.
- It was necessary for Jesus to bring to completion the first covenant and implement the second.

- But the baptism that Paul refers to here in **Gal. 3.27** was not a part of the first covenant, and is referred to in **Jn. 3** as a **“Second Birth”**.
 1. **Jn. 3.3-5** Jesus speaking to Nicodemus.
- We cannot talk about the kingdom of God without talking about the **“Second Birth”**.
 1. Rom. 6. As Paul describes the action of baptism it is describes by means of a death and rebirth. A **“Second Birth”**. **Rom. 6.3-4**
 2. Spiritually our life starts again. It’s a **“Second Birth”**.

The “Second Coming”.

Acts Chapter 1

- In Acts 1.11 as Luke records the last few words spoken by Jesus to the Apostles...
- Then as he ascends into heaven.
- In **verses 10 and 11 of chapter 1...**
- **His second coming.**
 1. To be involved in the heavens and not on the earth.
- **He indeed is coming back.**
- On the night Jesus instituted what we refer to as the Lord’s Supper the words of Jn 14 were spoken.
 1. He knew they were going to be disturbed by his departure...**vs. 1**
 2. Here is his promise...**vs. 2,3**
- The **purpose of the “Second Coming”** is to unite us spiritually, eternally with our Savior.
- Hebrews 9.27,28 We live, we die, and we await the judgment.

We need to know that we live under the Second Covenant

We need to be bound to God in that relationship and by those terms

We need to experience the “Second Birth”

And then we need to wait for the “Second Coming” recognizing that He apart from sin and we apart from sin wait for salvation.

- In **Matt 24** Jesus’ apostles asked him **2 questions**.
- As they are exiting the temple area:
 1. They called his attention to the great work and restoration of the temple.
 2. Jesus said there is going to come a day when there won’t be one stone on top of the other.
 3. The disciples come to him and said, **“when shall these things be”?**
 4. Jesus answered it like 2 questions.
 5. And Jesus answers the first question regarding the destruction of the city of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. in **vs. 34...**
 6. He said some of you are still going to be alive to see this happen.
 7. **“What will be the sign of you coming and the end of the world”?** No one knows but the Father **vs. 36...**
 8. In **2 Thess. 5.2** **“it will come as a thief in the night”**.
- The **Second Coming** is a reality. We don’t know **when** it will come, but **it will come** as a thief in the night and we have to be prepared.

The 4th Second is the Second Death.

Rev. 2.11.

- The latter part of **vs. 10** concludes as many of the letters concluded, **“be faithful to death and I will give you a crown of life”**.
- **Vs. 11...**
 1. This is contrasted with the crown of life in vs. 10.
 2. There are those that will receive a crown of life
 3. And those that will be hurt by what is referred to here as the Second Death
 4. What is this **Second Death**?

- **Rev. 21** - As John depicts the judgment scene, thru this vision we read in **vs. 8...**”**But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death**”.
- Many in the religious world today that would have us believe...
 1. There is no such place as hell.
 2. There is no such thing as eternal punishment.
 3. You just live life however you want
 4. Most will just cease to exist.
 5. Those that do live good lives will get to go to heaven
- But here the bible speaks of the Second Death in very real terms as it does...

The Second Covenant

The Second Birth

The Second Coming

- **The Second Death is** - eternity in a place that burns with eternal fire.
- **There are certain characteristics** of those that are going to be cast there.
- People that were **not bound to God by the Second Covenant**.

The 5th Second is “The Second Chance”.

- Our creator knows our faults and weaknesses.
- And in his loving grace and mercy the plan that he has implemented has allowed for pardon for the child of God that has fallen away. **Heb. 3.12 (One can fall away)**
- **Gal. 5.4** addressing the Judaizing teachers that were binding circumcision... **(ASV translates)** you are severed from Christ, you who would be bound by the law.
- **Acts 8.22**...Simon the sorcerer
 1. He was told to repent and to pray to God if perhaps the thought of his heart would be forgiven.
 2. He was given a **“Second Chance”**.
- **1Jn. 1.9**...John addresses our need to walk in the light and have spiritual fellowship with our heavenly father...
- **Vs. 9...**”**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness**”.
- The story of the prodigal son in **Luke 15**.
- When this wasteful son returns we find a lot of parallels that we can bring out of that lesson.
- The father was looking for him and anxiously anticipating and hoping for his return.
- But the words of the father there at the end of the chapter as he explains to the older brother who is out in the field pouting...
 1. He said it was proper and appropriate to rejoice.
 2. Because what was lost has been found.

The gospel in 5 Seconds.

- We’ve got to be a part of the **Second Covenant**
- Bound to God by terms of that covenant by experiencing and going thru a **Second Birth**.
- And being baptized into Christ we await his **Second Coming**.
- And we live our lives in such a way as to not fear the **Second Death**.
- But knowing that if we do falter, and if we do fail that we have a **Second Chance**.

God does not want us to be caught unaware.

He wants us to know so we can make the right decision.

What decision will you make?

If you would be bound to God thru his covenant and have rebirth thru baptism,

Or as a baptized believer be restored if you have fallen away, the Father is waiting for your decision.