

“A Gospel Amnesiac”

2 Peter 1:3

Tuesday Bible Lunch

August 28, 2018

Introduction: The gospel for many Christians is something for the past and something for the future.

- The past forgiveness of sins
- The future hope of heaven
- What is missing is the change the gospel makes to the here and now. One of my devotional readings called this being a gospel amnesiac.
- A gospel amnesiac is a person who has forgotten that they have been given everything they need to live life in the present.
- Peter makes this clear in our Scripture text.

Text: 1 Peter 1:3

- We are not left to our own wisdom and power to try and figure out how to live life.
- We do not have to log on to Amazon.com or look for the latest self-help book.
- The gospel gives everything we need to live life here and now.

Let me illustrate how practical and helpful the gospel is referring to the sermon I preached Sunday night.

- In my sermon, I said that living the Christian life is not easy.
- That is not something I thought up.

- Long ago Jesus said, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Matthew 26:41).
- The apostle Paul said the things he did not want to do he did, and the things he wanted to do he did not do (Romans chapter 7).
- I think we would all agree that living the Christian life is not easy.

The gospel tells us where to find the help we need whatever we go through.

- Jesus made a promise to His disciples that applies to all of His followers (John 14:16).
- The adverb “another” is a translation of the Greek word “allos” which means “another of the same kind.”
- The word “Helper” is a translation of the Greek word “parakletos” which refers to the Holy Spirit.

Illustration: Some Bible translations say, “Holy Spirit, Holy Ghost, Advocate, Comforter, Counselor, Helper.”

- The Holy Spirit is all that, but none of that gives the full picture.
- The Holy Spirit indwells every believer (Romans 8:9).
- The Holy Spirit is like Jesus Himself in the Present Tense doing in our lives what He did for the people during His incarnate ministry.

Application: You have the Holy Spirit to guide you and enable you to cope with whatever comes your way.

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit is far better than Amazon.com and self-help books. Don't be a spiritual amnesiac and forget who you have to help you.