

Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: The Gospel Defined

Series: Easter Sunday 2026

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1 - 11

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation of Holy Spirit's definition of the gospel (G2098, good tidings) of Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

~ 2 Peter 1:21, *"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."*

~ 2 Timothy 3:16 – 17, *"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*

~ 1 Corinthians 15:1 – 11 Read; in particular verses 3 and 4: *"(3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, (4) that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,"*

~ verse 1, remind – Paul declares that he had made known to them, to give understanding; received – take unto, take up, take away; they personally accepted and embraced stand – to cause or make to stand, to place, put, set

~ verse 2, by which you are being saved; salvation is in three tenses: justification, completed at the Cross of Calvary; sanctified, the work of the Holy Spirit aligning the believer with Christ Jesus; glorification, when we are brought into the physical presence of Christ Jesus.

1. Christ Died for Our Sins:

~ Isaiah 53:11, *"Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities."*

~ 2 Corinthians 5:21, *"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

~ Galatians 3:13, *"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"*

~ Hebrews 2:9, *"But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone."*

~ 1 Peter 3:18, *"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,"*

~ Only the totally holy and righteous God, come in the flesh to die for those who would call on Him, could ever satisfy His holy justice; anything less would be a derision (mockery) of God's unchanging holy character.

~ Mercy Walked In – Gordon Mote

2. Christ Was Buried:

~ Isaiah 53:9, *"And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth."*

~ Matthew 27:59 – 60, *"And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud (60) and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away."*

~ John 19:39 – 40, *"Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. (40) So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen clothes with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews."*

~ Acts 13:29, *"And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb."*

3. Christ Was Raised From the Dead:

~ John 11:25 – 26, *"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, (26) and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"*

~ Romans 1:4, *"and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,"*

~ Romans 4:23 – 25, *"But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, (24) but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, (25) who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification."*

Compare 1 Corinthians 15:12 – 22

~ Charles Colson on the resurrection: *"I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world—and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible."*

~ Charles Colson (October 16, 1931 – April 21, 2012) Served as Special Counsel to President Richard Nixon from 1969 to 1970. He served seven months in Maxwell Prison in Alabama.

Conclusion:

Communion