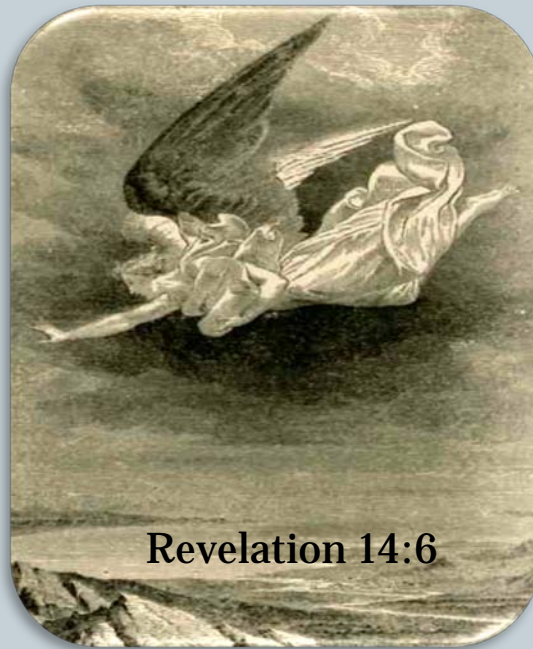


The Antiquity of the Gospel



SEVENTY PATRICK MCKAY



Introduction



- *And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having **the everlasting gospel** to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.*
 - Revelation 14:6

Introduction



- **Did the gospel of Jesus Christ precede the Law of Moses?**
 - We will offer you concrete Biblical support demonstrating that the gospel of Jesus was taught in the beginning, and that there is only one gospel, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Antiquity of the Gospel



- *Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto **life eternal**: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. **I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.***

- John 4:36-38

The Antiquity of the Gospel



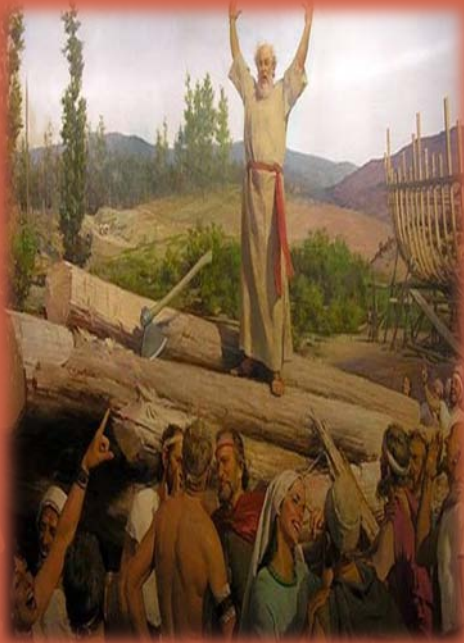
- We understand this labor is the gospel labor bringing “***eternal life***” –
- If his disciples were sent out to reap other men’s gospel sowing, ***who were those sowers*** and ***when did they labor?***

Enoch



- In Hebrews we read about Enoch the seventh from Adam by faith pleased God—
- ***By faith Enoch** was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he **pleased God**.*
 - Heb 11:5
- The obvious question is faith in what, or whom?
- And was Enoch's faith a saving faith?

Noah



- In Peter we read that Noah was a ***preacher of righteousness—***
- *And [God] spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a ***preacher of righteousness,*** bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.*
 - 2Peter 2:5

Noah



- The Book of Romans tells us where the ***righteousness of God is revealed—***
- *For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. **For therein is the righteousness of God revealed through faith on his name**; as it is written, the just shall live by faith.*
 - Romans 1:16-17

Noah



- Noah must have preached what was ***revealed to him in the gospel***, or we might say he was a preacher of the gospel.
- *But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach **any other gospel** unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.*
 - Galatians 1:8

Noah



- In Peter we learn about those who were ***disobedient to Noah's invitation*** to whom Jesus went to visit and preach to—
 - *For Christ also once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit, that he might bring us to God. For which cause also, he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Some of whom were ***disobedient in the days of Noah***, while the long-suffering of God waited, while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.*
 - 1Peter 3:18-20

Noah

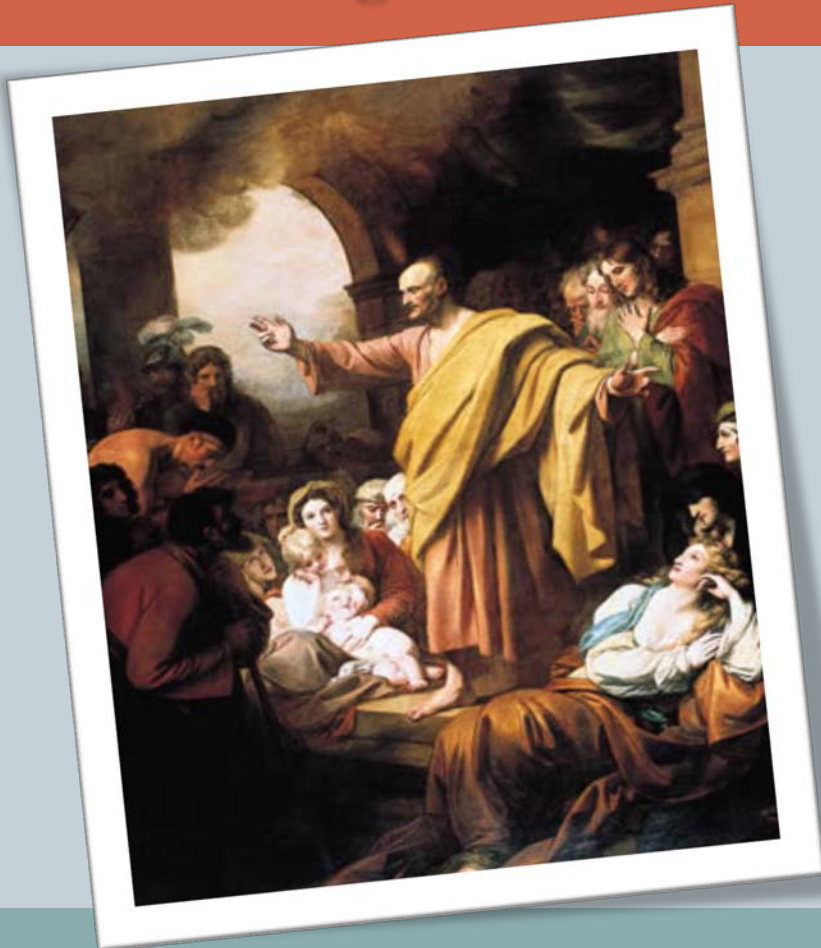


- These folks could not have been disobedient to God unless he had asked them to obey something.
 - If God sent Noah to ***preach righteousness***, then his preaching must have required obedience to something—evidently the gospel.
- Remember we just learned that Noah was a ***“preacher of righteousness.”***

The Preacher



Declaring The Word



Sent By God

- Paul instructs us that—
- *How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And **how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?** As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.***
- Romans 10:14-16

One Gospel



- Remember we just read what the apostle told us that there is there is only ***one gospel***—
- *But though we, or an angel from heaven, ***preach any other gospel*** unto you than that which we have preached unto you, ***let him be accursed.****
 - Galatians 1:8

Noah



- So God evidently sent Noah to preach righteousness.
- The righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel.
- Paul instructs us that we are accursed if we teach any other gospel.
- Therefore God must have sent Noah to preach Jesus Christ and his everlasting gospel.

Abraham

Father of the Faithful



The Gospel Was
Preached To Abraham

- *And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, **preached before the gospel unto Abraham** saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.*
- Galatians 3:8

Abraham



- What gospel?
- The gospel of Jesus Christ; we read further in Galatians—
- *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree; that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that they might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*
- Galatians 3:13-14

Abraham



- This promise of the gospel was given prior to the Law of Moses –
- ***Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, and to seeds, as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.***
 - Galatians 3:16-17

The Promise To Abraham

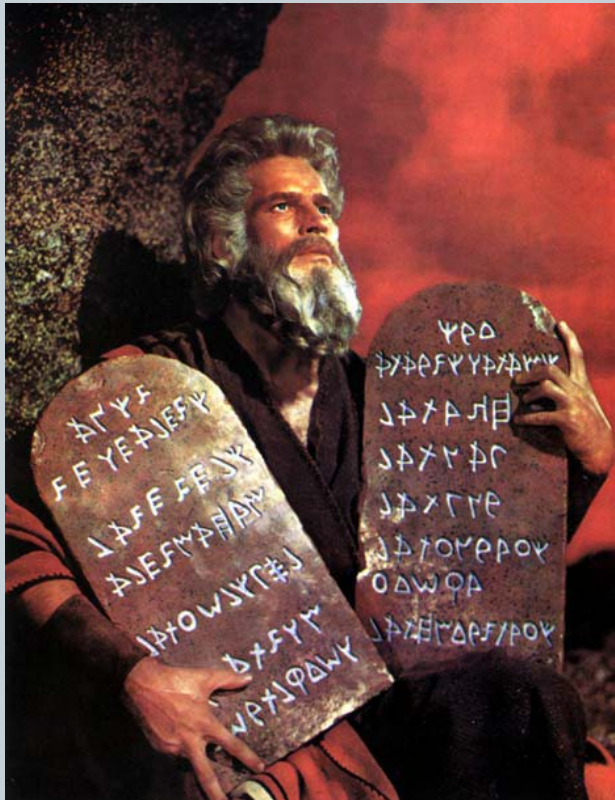


- This covenant or everlasting gospel was established in Christ and promised to Abraham 430 years prior to the Law of Moses.
- So Jesus endured the curse that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ that they might receive the promise of the Spirit *through faith*.
- Remember—
- *As it is written, the just shall live by faith.*
- Romans 1:16-17

Moses



Tables of Stone



Everlasting Priesthood

- Moses was under the gospel economy—
- Moses not only knew of Jesus Christ but understood that to follow him would lead to reproach.
 - *Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; **Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt;** for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.*
 - Hebrews 11:25-26

More On Moses



- The antiquity of the gospel was with Moses —
 - *Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and **did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them; and that Rock was Christ.** But with many of them God was not well pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness.*
 - 1Corinthians 10:1-5
- If Christ was the Rock from which they drank, they must have drank of the waters of life, the everlasting gospel.

Jehovah



- Who was the God of the Old Testament?
- Moses asked God when I tell the children of Israel you have sent me and they ask me what your name is what shall I say?
- ***I AM THAT I AM;*** and he said, *Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.*
 - Exodus 3:14

Jehovah



- When Jesus told the Jews that Abraham rejoiced to see my day the Jews said you're not yet 50 years old and you have seen Abraham. Jesus then said—
- *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am.***
 - John 8:58
 - Jesus means Jehovah saves

Antiquity



- There is yet more evidentiary scripture which supports the antiquity of the everlasting gospel—
- *For unto us was the rest [JST] **gospel** [KJ] **preached**, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard it.*
 - Heb 4:2

A Parable of the Kingdom



- Jesus compared the kingdom to a man who went out early to hire labors to work in his vineyard. (Matthew 20)
- He agreed to pay them a penny a day.
- He then hired men early in the morning, as well as in the third, sixth, ninth and eleventh hours all referring to different dispensations of time.



apud: phillip medhurst

THE ELEVENTH HOUR LABOURERS. MATTHEW 20:1-15. JAN LUYKEN

excudit: harry kossuth

A Parable of the Kingdom



- We can elucidate on the parables meaning with a verse from John—
 - *Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. **I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.***
 - John 4:36-38

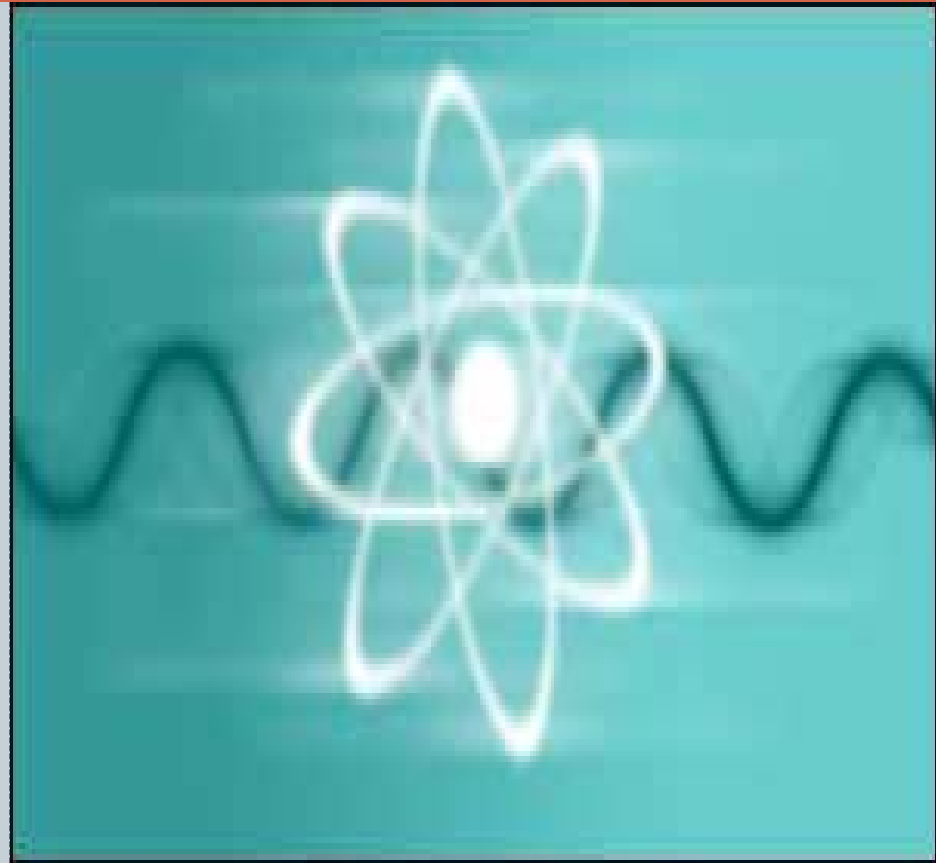
The Speed of Light



Scientific Experiment

- A recent newspaper article discussed a remarkable experiment some scientists performed showing that the generally held misconception that nothing can travel faster than the speed of light is wrong.
- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/841690.stm>

Speed of Light



The Speed of Light



- These researchers' at the University of Rochester developed a laser that pulsed an amplified beam of light with so much energy that the pulse actually went faster than ordinary light can travel.
- The effect of this experiment was that the scientists saw the light emerging from the tube before it entered into the tube. The light actually moved backwards.

The Speed of Light

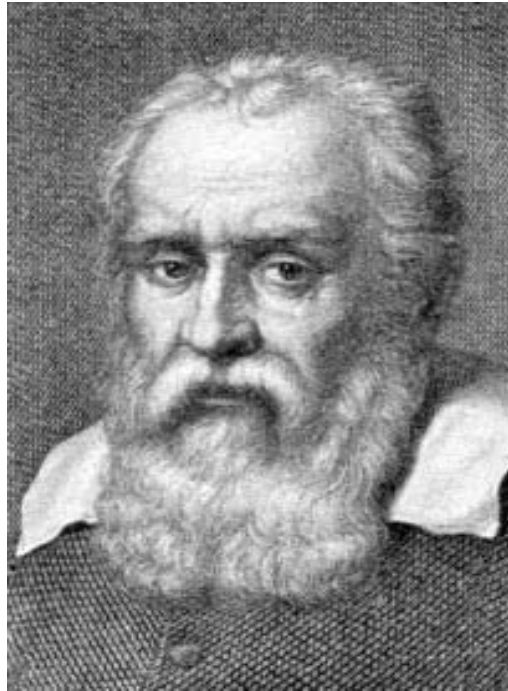


- What this experiment proved is that it is possible to bend time.
- In this case, these scientists were able to see the effect of the experiment prior to seeing the cause. In actuality they were able to see the future!
 - *That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been, and God requireth that which is past.*
 - Ecclesiastes 3:15
- Essentially what this means is they were able at least in the laboratory to ***produce an effect before they generated the cause.***



Cause and Effect

Ever since the days in which the scientific revolution began back in the 1500's during the time of Galileo and Newton there has been the assumption that the cause must precede the effect and that the reverse is impossible.



Galileo Galilei

Isaac Newton





Cause and Effect

This seems reasonable; after all you can't eat an apple pie before you make it.

You can't have the benefits of any act prior to the act being accomplished. This inflexible rule has been that effects always and forever must come ***after*** and never the other way around.



Saving Grace



- The theologians examined the saving grace of Jesus in light of cause and effect.
- They realized that all those souls who sinned and needed redemption but who lived and died prior to the advent of the Savior and his spilt blood on Calvary could not have salvation, for the laws of cause and effect prohibited the blessing to run backwards in time, remember the axiom, ***“there is no effect prior to the cause.”***
- Therefore, no one could be saved by Jesus until after he had died on the cross.

Dispensationalism



- It placed the theologians in a quandary. It seemed to condemn all who lived prior to Jesus coming, while offering grace and salvation to all who managed to live afterwards.
- These theologians needed to somehow offer an explanation to give salvation to those not able to benefit from the blessing of the cross.
 - So they began to teach dispensationalism—
- As the theory developed God simply used *different gospels* to save people in different periods or dispensations of time.
 - Noah and his family were saved according to one gospel, Abraham another and Moses still another. Then there arrived the church age and mankind was saved by Jesus and his spilt blood.

Dispensationalism



- This doctrine of dispensations was so seductively successful; it was used to explain away the gifts of the Spirit and the various ministerial officers of the church and their authority to administer the gospel established by Jesus and the Apostles.
- These gifts and offices were simply manifestations of *another gospel.*
- Today the theologians tell us that we are no longer living in the Church Age but the Bible Age. That is why they teach that the extra ordinary manifestations of the gifts are no longer available to us.

Dispensationalism



- When the angel, having the everlasting gospel (Revelation 14:6) delivered it to Joseph Smith it was the same gospel as taught by the “*preachers of righteousness*” in every dispensation—
- Joseph’s revelations contradicted the prevailing theories of his Protestant contemporaries.
- The gospel which had been restored was the everlasting gospel, offering the same fruits and gifts of the Spirit, with the same signs following those who would believe.
- It offered the same officers to administer its laws and ordinances.

The Everlasting Gospel



- There were once again placed in the church apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers and evangelists all for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ***until we in the unity of the faith come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ*** unto a perfect man (Ephesians 4:11).
 - For we read in Malachi—
 - ***I am the Lord, I change not.*** Mal 3:6
- The everlasting gospel has been preached from the beginning and now has been restored in this the dispensation of the fullness of times.
- It was the same gospel offering the same benefits.

Latter Day Revelation



- *And it came to pass that Enoch looked, and, from Noah, he beheld all the families of the earth; and he cried unto the Lord, saying, When shall the day of the Lord come? When shall the blood of the righteous be shed, that all they that mourn may be sanctified, and have eternal life? And the Lord said, It shall be in the meridian of time, in the days of wickedness and vengeance. And, behold, **Enoch saw the day of the coming of the Son of Man, even in the flesh; and his soul rejoiced, saying, The righteous is lifted up, and the Lamb is slain from the foundation of the world; and, through faith, I am in the bosom of the Father; and behold, Zion is with me!***
 - Doctrine & Covenants 36:9

Latter Day Revelation



- How were Enoch and his city able to be in the bosom of the Father?
 - ***Through faith!***
 - And faith in what?
- Faith in the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world.
 - The Vision of Joseph and Sydney—
- *“And this is the gospel, the glad tidings which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us, that he came into the world, even Jesus to be crucified for the world, and to bear the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness that through him **all** might be saved.”*
 - Doctrine & Covenants 76:4g-h

The Everlasting Gospel



- Our God like the scientists created a pulse of energy so great and with such grand amplitude radiating from the moment of Jesus atonement that it could be seen and felt and have its effect at the very dawn of creation—
- Our testimony is that those who lived before Jesus came to the earth; could actually ***“see the light.”***

The Everlasting Gospel



- Jesus was indeed ***slain from the foundation of the world.***
 - ***The Bible records—***
 - ***“The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”***
 - Revelation 13:8
- His gospel is the everlasting and unchangeable gospel!

The Antiquity of the Gospel



Thank You