The Gospel: The Living Sacrifice

The gospel is the most amazing message in this world. Even the word "gospel" is amazing. The word means "good news." This weird world could use a little good news. The gospel points to new life. This dying world could use a little new life as well. The power behind both the message (good news) and the new life is the fact that it has all been accomplished through Jesus Christ. Jesus shouted his last words from the cross: "It is finished!"

As we read through the history of the Old Testament we will see many prophetic promises of the finished work of Christ. We can read of the Passover Lamb, the Atonement Cover on the Ark of the Covenant, the Sabbath Rest, the priesthood system and the many religious festivals. All these were prophetic portraits of what would be accomplished (finished) in Christ.

Paul wrote of this fulfilled reality this way: "These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" (Colossians 2:17). This amazing truth of the gospel is the truth that God would have all people receive. God has promised salvation and God has completed the work of salvation in Christ. All that is left for anyone to do is to simply bow to what God has accomplished in Christ. New life starts now.

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Colossians 2:16-23

16-17 SHADOW vs. SUBSTANCE

18-19 PRIDE vs. HUMILITY

20-23 OLD LIFE vs. NEW LIFE

 ▪ Old life is past – New life is now

 ▪ Old life will perish – New life is forever

 ▪ Old life is false – New life is truth

 Ezekiel 36:26-27