

Two Gospels?

Examining Don Behel's Assertions (Part 1)

INTRO:

1) June 7, 2020 Email

“Two Gospels- Rightly Divided” - Don Behel

2) “The attached paper explains the differences between the gospel that the Apostle Paul preached to the Gentiles, and the gospel that “the 12” preached to the Jews. The attached paper lists sixteen (16) differences between these two separate and distinct gospels.”

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INTRO:

- 3) “You will not be alone in preaching the ONE true gospel. Currently, there are Church of Christ congregations in Texas that are preaching Paul’s gospel, which is the ONE true gospel. We are emailing several preachers, elders and church workers on the same email. Our mission is to share the ONE true gospel with all Church of Christ congregations.”

Let us examine Behel’s false doctrine...

Two Gospels?

Examining Don Behel's Assertions

I. Gospel to Jews = "Eternal earthly kingdom"

"The (good news) gospel given to the children of Israel (by the 12) was that if they would believe that Jesus was the Son of God, that they would receive an **earthly kingdom**. This (good news) gospel was called the "gospel of the kingdom of God." (p.2)

"...everlasting earthly kingdom" (p. 6)

"Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom of God
– Paul preached the gospel of the grace of God"
(p. 14)

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Examining Don Behel's Assertions

I. Gospel to Jews = "Eternal earthly kingdom"

RESPONSE:

A. Jesus taught gospel of the kingdom
(Matt. 4:23; 9:35)

B. For ALL Nations! "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be **preached in the whole world** for a testimony **unto all the nations**; and then shall the end come." (Mt 24:14)

C. "...ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, **to testify the gospel of the grace of God**. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I went about **preaching the kingdom...**" (Acts 20:24-25)

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I. Gospel to Jews = "Eternal earthly kingdom"

RESPONSE:

D. Paul at Rome "...**testifying the kingdom of God**, and persuading them concerning Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning till evening."
(Acts 28:23)

E. "And he abode two whole years in his own hired dwelling, and received **all** that went in unto him, **preaching the kingdom of God**, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, none forbidding him."
(Acts 28:30-31)

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I. Gospel to Jews = "Eternal earthly kingdom"

RESPONSE:

F. God "who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the **kingdom** of the Son of his love;" (Col. 1:13)

G. "...Worthy art thou to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and **didst** purchase unto God with thy blood men of **every** tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation, and **madest** them to be unto our God a **kingdom** and priests; and they **reign** upon earth." (Rev. 5:9-10)

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I. Gospel to Jews = "Eternal earthly kingdom"

RESPONSE:

H. **"My kingdom is not of this world:"**
(John 18:36)

Behel is wrong about the nature of the kingdom
& the preaching of the kingdom.

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II. Subjective Appeals

A. “Here are the words of Paul - *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.* Romans 2:16.” (Email)

“We see in Galatians 2:7-8 where Paul writes that the gospel of the circumcision was given to Peter, and the gospel of the uncircumcision was given to Paul. This sentence is obviously referring to two different gospels. This verse would have been written entirely different if there was a ‘shared’ gospel.” (Letter #13 p.14)

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II. Subjective Arguments

A. "My gospel" "Gospel of the uncircumcision"?

Does "my gospel" mean Paul taught a different message from Jesus & the 12 apostles?

Acts 10-11 Same gospel to Gentiles

Acts 15:9 No distinction between Jew & Gentile

Gal 1:6-9; 2:4 Diff gospel = cursed, false brethren

Gal. 2:1-9 Same message, different audiences

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II. Subjective Arguments

B. Alabaster Box (Letter p.9)

“#1 If the Apostle Paul preached the same gospel as the other twelve Apostles preached, then why did Paul not refer to Mary’s alabaster box as the twelve were commanded to do by Jesus?”

We see in Matthew 26:13 where Jesus said –
“Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.”

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II. Subjective Arguments

B. Alabaster Box (Letter p.9)

- This same verse (Matthew 26:13) destroys Behel's premise, since Jesus' gospel was going to go into the whole world...
- Behel fabricates a distinction between a supposed Gospel to Jews & Gospel to Gentiles... then hunts for flimsy arguments to "prove" the distinction.

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II. Subjective Arguments

C. Bride vs Body (p.11)

“#4 Bride of Christ ‘or’ Body of Christ

Israel is the “bride of Christ,” The Church in Rome has been spreading this bridal theology due to the Catholic priests taking an oath of celibacy. They say that they are married to the Church. That is where the ‘Church is the bride of Christ’ theology originated. The denominational world has taken and used this wrong theology.”

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II. Subjective Arguments

C. Bride vs Body (p.11)

Began with Catholicism?

2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy: for I espoused you to one husband, that I might present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

Ephesians 4-5 Husband-Wife; Christ-Church

Romans 7:1-4 Joined/Married to Christ!

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II. Subjective Arguments

D. Church Started By Paul (Letter p. 18)

“We want to be a member of ‘**The Body of Christ.**’ The church of Paul’s gospel to the Gentiles is ‘**The Body of Christ.**’ Therefore, ‘**OUR**’ church was not started at Pentecost. ‘**OUR**’ church was started by Paul, who was the first member of ‘The Body of Christ.’”

Paul rejected such nonsense (1 Cor. 1:11-15)

Paul affirmed Christ as foundation (1 Cor. 3:11)

Lord’s church, purchased w/ blood (Acts 20:28)

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III. Calvinism

A. Once Save Always Saved:

“- Have you ever questioned ‘once saved - always saved?’

If so, then this letter explains how this occurs, and how everyone can be forever secure in their own salvation.” (Page 1-2)

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Examining Don Behel's Assertions

III. Calvinism

A. Once Save Always Saved:

“#7 In the gospel to the Jews you have to forgive other men to get forgiveness - In the gospel to the Gentiles all sins are forgiven ...in the gospel to the Gentiles all of our sins are already forgiven.” (Letter #7, p. 13)

“#10 Their sins will be blotted out when they are in the presence of the Lord - our sins are forgiven on the cross” (Letter p. 18)

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Examining Don Behel's Assertions

III. Calvinism

A. Once Saved Always Saved:

Gal. 5:1 For freedom did Christ set us free: stand fast therefore, and be not entangled again in a yoke of bondage. 2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that, if ye receive circumcision, Christ will profit you nothing. 3 Yea, I testify again to every man that receiveth circumcision, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Ye are severed from Christ, ye would be justified by the law; ye are fallen away from grace.

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III. Calvinism

B. Denies All Law:

Standard Calvinist appeals to “Grace” not “Law” using Titus 3:5, Eph 2:8-9, etc.

These deny earning salvation via the Old Law.

These do not deny ALL law...

These do not deny God requiring conditions!

How Ephesians saved? Baptized (Acts 19:1-5)!

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III. Calvinism

B. Denies All Law:

“God cannot work within us through law; God can only work within us through grace.”

(Letter p. 15)

Is “love” a law?

“Under love – not under law” (Letter p. 22)

What about the “law of faith” (Rom 3:27)?

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III. Calvinism

C. Baptism Of No Effect?

“So we can see that II Corinthians 5:19 states that God is not counting our sins against us. He is doing this for the whole world. Therefore, any ‘baptism for the remission of sins’ is of no effect, since we have no sins to be forgiven. Also, there is no need to even confess our sins. Jesus took care of that on the cross. On the cross, our sins were washed away. We do not need to receive forgiveness twice.” (Letter p.17)

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III. Calvinism

C. Baptism Of No Effect?

Denies Jesus (Mark 16:16), Paul & H.S.:

Col 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, wherein ye were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead through your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, you, I say, did he make alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses;

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III. Calvinism

D. Imputation / Transference (Letter p. 18)

“Sins forgiven and Salvation

Sins forgiven – God has reconciled the world unto Himself ‘and’ He does not impute our trespasses (sins) unto us. Yes, this is true and scripture indeed tells us so. In the Bible we see that in the eyes of God we are sinless because Christ Jesus took our sins upon Himself.

Therefore, we have no need of asking for forgiveness of sins that have already been forgiven on the cross. When we ask for forgiveness of our sins, then that is akin to saying that Christ Jesus was mistaken when He said ‘it is finished.’

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III. Calvinism

D. Imputation / Transference (Letter p. 18)

“We see in II Corinthians 5:21 ‘For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.’

In II Corinthians 5:19 – ‘To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.’ ”

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III. Calvinism

D. Imputation / Transference (Letter p. 23)

- “- Christ Jesus has imputed His righteousness to us, and
- We have all of our sins forgiven by the finished work of Christ Jesus on the cross; therefore, there is no need to even confess our sins.”

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III. Calvinism

D. Imputation / Transference (Letter p. 23)

Sin is not transferred between people (Ezek 18)

Christ was without sin (Heb. 4:15)

Christ did not automatically forgive sins on the cross (Cp. Luke 23:34; Acts 2:38)

He provided a sacrifice (Heb. 10:5-10), but His blood is only applied when we obey the gospel (Heb 10:22; Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16).

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IV. How Many Gospels?

“Two Gospels- Rightly Divided” - Don Behel
(June 7, 2020 Email)

(From Letter #2 p.10)

“In Galatians Chapter 1:8-9 we see that the Apostle Paul says that if anyone, even an angel, preaches any other gospel than what he has preached then ‘let him be accursed.’

However, we see in Revelations [sic] 14:6-7 where an angel is preaching the ‘everlasting gospel.’

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IV. How Many Gospels?

“...Is Paul saying that this angel is to be accursed?

No, this angel is preaching a gospel still yet to be preached. This gospel will be preached in the future. This is the ‘word of truth’ for another time.

We will be gone when this gospel is preached.

Paul’s gospel, the gospel to the Gentiles, is for this current dispensation in which we live. We live in the ‘dispensation of the grace of God.’

Here Paul is not saying that there has never been another gospel. No, Paul is saying that NOW at this time, there is NOT another gospel.”

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IV. How Many Gospels?

1) Three gospels? (Gal. 1:6-9)

2) Paul saying only one gospel "right now"?

- How then can Behel argue that Paul taught
Gentile gospel at same time as apostles
teaching Jewish gospel?

Acts 10-11 Same gospel to Gentiles

Acts 15:9 No distinction between Jew & Gentile

Gal 1:6-9; 2:4 Diff gospel = cursed

Gal. 2:1-9 Same message, different audiences

3) A future earthly dispensation? (2Pt 3:10-13)

Behel = false teacher, teaching a diff gospel.