



An Open Letter to Readers.

First Baptist Church of Enfield has a love for souls—the souls of men, women and children. All people—regardless of kindred, tribe and tongue—are made in the image of God for His glory. Because we care about you, our burden and desire is to see you *saved*.

Yet as we look around us we see people who are largely oblivious to God. They either do not care about God, have a false idea of who God is or don't know about Him at all.

This greatly pains us. God's word to mankind through the gospel is not optional. To ignore God is to literally put yourself in mortal danger! The Bible says, *"Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."*

The saving gospel of Jesus Christ is not a human invention. It's not just another suggested remedy for the ills of mankind to be set alongside other possible options or solutions. It's not about spiritual-feeling experiences or "journeys." And least of all, it is not just another philosophy in the marketplace of metaphysical ideas.

The gospel is straight from God — it's His message to mankind. It's a demand by God that people turn from their sins by giving their lives to Jesus Christ. All people will eventually meet Jesus. They'll either meet Him as *Judge* or as *Savior*. All will meet Him as *Lord*.

We've Got to Admit It. The apostle Paul wrote, *"Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief."* Why would Paul say such a thing? How could the greatest Christian who ever lived refer to himself as the chief of sinners? The answer is that when Paul evaluated his public and private life in light of the holiness of God there was only one inescapable conclusion—he was a dreadful sinner.

You and I are no different and we've got to admit it. You see, all of us exhibit a hopelessly corrupt nature *every day*. We revel in off-color jokes, take the Lord's name in vain and curse out our fellow man. We hate so-and-so. We gossip about our friends and slander our enemies. "Me first" is our credo and "My Way" is our song. We display outbursts of anger, drunkenness, lust and lewdness. We're jealous of some yet snobs toward others. Each of us carries—in the deep recesses of our minds—thoughts and impulses so dark and unspeakable that we dare not share them with anyone.

But God knows all about them and He has a name for them: He calls them *sin*. And He has declared in His word that *"The wages of sin is death"* (Romans 6.23). Now we all, of course, die a physical death so what does God mean? He means that the consequences of our sins is eternity apart from God in a real, literal place called Hell. Have you ever thought about how long eternity is?

How Can I Be Saved? Jesus said of Himself, *"The Son of Man came to seek and save that which was lost."* In fact, Jesus' very name means, "Jehovah Saves." As the Son of God He is none other than Almighty God Himself. He has the authority and power to save you from your sins. Paul explains further, *"if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ...for whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."* Won't you call on Him now?

How Will I Know I'm Saved? The Bible says that when we are saved we will know so. It says, *"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."* In other words, you will have a new peace that passes all understanding and will know in your heart that you belong to Jesus Christ. You will also exhibit a new kind of behavior. Most notably you'll have a desire to study the Bible. You'll also desire to worship God, to be with His people and to serve Him at a local Bible-teaching church such as First Baptist Church.

"The saving gospel of Jesus Christ is not just another suggested remedy for the ills of human beings. It's an unconditional demand by God to be saved or forever perish."

This Church's Responsibility to God. First Baptist Church has a responsibility to glorify God by proclaiming Jesus Christ to all. For we *"are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes"* (Romans 1.16). To this end we have gladly published this full-page advertisement.

This Church's Responsibility to You. Our responsibility to you is to present you with a clear, cogent, rational and understandable gospel. The Bible has the answers to life's most important questions including those pertaining to God, ourselves, faith, relationships, science, origins, history and the future. Our responsibility also is to help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We pursue this goal through the faithful, expositional preaching and teaching of His holy word—the Bible—and through the many ministries of First Baptist Church of Enfield.

First Baptist Church
253 Brainard Rd
Enfield, CT 06082

Phone:
(860) 745-0158

Sunday Services:
Adult and Children's
Sunday School 9:30am

Worship 10:45am and
6:30pm

Wednesdays:
Prayer Meeting 7:00pm
Teen Disciples 7:00pm