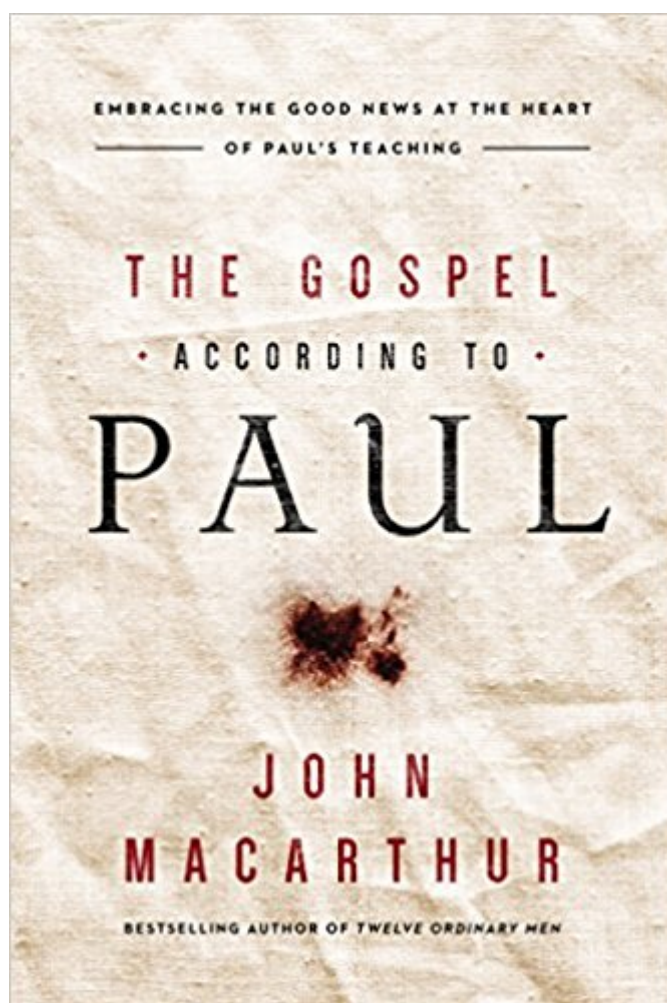


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# The Gospel According To Paul: Embracing The Good News At The Heart Of Paul's Teachings



## Synopsis

From master-expositor and Bible teacher John MacArthur, a revelatory exploration of what the apostle Paul actually taught about the good news of Jesus. The apostle Paul penned a number of very pithy, focused passages in his letters to the early church that summarize the gospel message in just a few well-chosen words. Each of these key texts has a unique emphasis highlighting some essential aspect of the Good News. The chapters in this revelatory new book closely examine those vital gospel texts, one verse at a time. John MacArthur, host of the popular media ministry *Grace to You*, president of the Master's University and Seminary, and longtime pastor at Grace Community Church, tackles such questions as, What is the gospel? What are the essential elements of the message? How can we be certain we have it right? And how should Christians be proclaiming the Good News to the world? As always, the answers John MacArthur gives are clear, compelling, well-reasoned, easy to grasp, and above all, thoroughly biblical. *The Gospel According to Paul* is written in a style that is easily accessible to lay people, including those who know very little about the Bible, while being of great value to seasoned pastors and experienced ministers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

John MacArthur has served as the pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California, since 1969. His ministry of expository preaching is unparalleled in its breadth and influence. In more than four decades of ministry from the same pulpit, he has preached verse by verse through the entire New Testament (and several key sections of the Old Testament). He is

president of the Master's University and Seminary and can be heard daily on the Grace to You radio broadcast (carried on hundreds of radio stations worldwide). He has authored a number of bestselling books, including *Twelve Ordinary Men*, and *One Perfect Life*. For more details about John MacArthur and his Bible-teaching resources, contact Grace to You at 800-55-GRACE or [gty.org](http://gty.org).

Great.

I love it and it got here when promised.

John MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Paul*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2017, 256 pp.

\$13.20 Nearly thirty years ago, Dr. John MacArthur wrote *The Gospel According to Jesus*. The book was a clear articulation of the gospel and a sharp repudiation of antinomianism and other views that failed to affirm the lordship of Jesus Christ in salvation. A firestorm erupted and sparked heated debate among evangelicals as a result of the book. Since that time, MacArthur has written several books that articulated the gospel and defended it from attacks, most of which were coming from professing evangelicals leaders. MacArthur's latest offering, *The Gospel According to Paul*, is less polemical in tone but no less powerful than his previous works. His intent is to survey the gospel through the eyes of Paul the apostle and consider several questions that are of utmost importance: What is the gospel? What are the essential elements of the gospel? How can we be certain we have it right? How should Christians be proclaiming the gospel to the world? MacArthur adds, "The gospel was no sideline for the apostle Paul. Jesus Christ and Him crucified was the principle theme of everything the apostle taught or preached" (129). So with passion and biblical precision, the author showcases the gospel according to Paul. A wonderful summary of the book may be found in MacArthur's explanation of Philippians 3:4-11: "That is a remarkable testimony because of the way Paul weaves in several of his favorite gospel themes: the worthlessness of human works as a means of gaining merit with God; the pivotal role of faith; the principles of grace and imputed righteousness; the death and resurrection of the Savior; and above all the supreme value of knowing Christ over any earthly benefit, privilege, or treasure." MacArthur not only provides a masterful articulation of the gospel and penal substitutionary atonement; he defends it against the pernicious threat of antinomians, Pharisees, and other dangerous heretics. *The Gospel According to Paul* is a clear explanation of the most important reality in the universe, namely, that

“in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself” (2 Cor. 5:19). It unfolds the gospel with a decisively Reformed framework and rightly points readers to the magisterial Reformers and the truths they unearthed in the sixteenth century. And it is basic enough for new believers but also contains a treasure chest of Christ-glorifying truths that are guaranteed to encourage and equip longtime followers of Jesus. Highly recommended!

A very good book for the New Testament Church Pastor. In depth study of the teachings of Paul to the early churches.

Excellent study!!!

“Salvation is a creative work of God, not a do-it-yourself project for sinners.” While that quote sums up John MacArthur’s perspective on 2 Corinthians 5, it could summarize the message of his latest book, *The Gospel According to Paul: Embracing the Good News at the Heart of Paul’s Teaching*. The approach of the book is to use some of the principle evangelistic texts from Paul’s New Testament epistles, we will survey the gospel as Paul proclaimed it. We’ll consider several important questions, including: What is the gospel? What are the essential elements of the message? How can we be certain we have it right? How should Christians be proclaiming the good news to the world? As Dr. MacArthur explains in the introduction, My design in this book is to explain the most important gospel texts from Paul’s epistles as clearly and as thoroughly as possible. I hope to underscore (as Paul did) the eternal importance of gospel doctrine and the absolute necessity of getting it right. In Chapter 1, “Things of First Importance,” Dr. MacArthur uses 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 to lay out the basics of the gospel, including the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. In Chapter 2, “First, the Bad News,” he uses Romans 3 to stress that all have sinned and no one seeks God. Chapter 3, “How can a Person Be Right with God?” uses a question posed by Job to illustrate the dilemma we all face. Chapter 4, “Sola Fide,” explains that we are saved by faith, not by works. Chapter 5, “The Great Exchange,” deals with the doctrine of substitutionary atonement. Chapter 6, “Alive Together With Christ,” describes the power and results of the resurrection. Chapter 7, “The Lessons of Grace,” compares grace and legalism. In the appendices, Dr. MacArthur includes

four sermons preached on these topics along with a glossary of terms. For those who are concerned that Dr. MacArthur overemphasizes Calvinism, he offers an explanation and a balance. We have stressed the sovereignty of God in salvation because that doctrine stands out prominently on the face of this text (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is an amazing and counterintuitive truth. After all, God is the offended deity. But reconciliation for sinners comes at His instigation, through an atonement that He sovereignly provides. (p. 91) God's sovereignty does not eliminate human responsibility. God holds us responsible for what we do and don't do, and it is perfectly just for Him to do so. He doesn't control human actions by constraint. (p.92) Just as God's sovereignty doesn't eliminate the sinner's responsibility, likewise the plea for sinners to be reconciled to God poses no actual contradiction to the fact that God is the One who sovereignly draws those who do respond to the plea. (p. 93) The point to grasp here is that no one is compelled by force or coercion to reject the gospel message. They do it freely, by their own choice. Those who turn away in unbelief are therefore wholly responsible for putting themselves under God's condemnation. (p.94) The book will stretch your thinking on the topic and give you a much better understanding of the doctrine of salvation. Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the publisher through the BookLook Bloggers book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

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