

# THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

## EVERLASTING GOSPEL MAP

1. **The Everlasting Gospel/Good News**
2. **The Plan of Salvation (sin)**
3. **The Everlasting Covenant with Christ**
4. **The Promises & Conditions**
5. **Promises: Forgiveness, Victory & Eradication**
6. **Conditions: Believe & Surrender/Abide by Faith**
7. **Everything explained/detailed in Sanctuary and executed by God**

### 1. **The Everlasting Gospel/Good News**

Matthew 24:14 And this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

## **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?**

**Romans 1:16,17** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

### **Titus 2:11**

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

### 2. **The Plan of Salvation (sin)**

**SAVE US FROM WHAT? FROM SIN! THE PENALTY, GUILT, POWER AND PRESENCE OF SIN!**

**Matthew 1:21** And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

HOW IS GOD GOING TO SAVE US FROM SIN?

**1 John 4:10** This is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation (atonement) for our sins.

**1 John 4:9** In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we live through Him.

**2 Corinthians 5:19-21** God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their sin to them... For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### **3. The Everlasting Covenant with Christ**

**Before the foundations of the earth were laid, the Father and the Son had united in a covenant to redeem man if he should be overcome by Satan. They had clasped their hands in a solemn pledge that Christ should become the surety for the human race. (DTG pg.773)**

**Zechariah 6:12,13** Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between Them both.

**Isaiah 54:10** For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,' Says the LORD, who has mercy on you.

**NEW/EVERLASTING COVENANT CAN NOT BE INVALIDATED BECAUSE IT IS BETWEEN THE FATHER AND THE SON. THE INVALIDATED COVENANT IS THE OLD COVENANT THAT IS REAL MADE WITH GOD.**

**ABRAHAM DISOBEYED AND LACKED FAITH BUT COVENANT WAS NEVER TAKEN AWAY**

**Rom 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Isaiah 42:1,6** Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And I will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people.

**Galatians 3:17** The covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ

### **4. The Promises & Conditions**

**'The law requires righteousness,--a righteous life, a perfect character; and this man has not to give. He cannot meet the claims of God's holy law. But Christ, coming to the earth as man, lived a holy life, and developed a perfect character. These He offers as a free gift to all who will receive them His life stands for the life of men. Thus they have remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. More than this, Christ imbues men with the attributes of God. He builds up the human character after the similitude of the divine character, a goodly fabric of spiritual strength and beauty. Thus the very righteousness of the law is fulfilled in the believer in Christ.'** The Desire of Ages / Chap. 79 - "It is Finished"

ISN'T OBEDIENCE THE CONDITION OF THE COVENANT SO WE CAN RECEIVE THE PROMISES? NO! WE ARE INCAPABLE OF OBEDIENCE BECAUSE OF OUR FALLEN NATURE.

**In the beginning, man was created in the image of God. He was in perfect harmony with the nature and the law of God; the principles of righteousness were written upon his heart. But sin alienated him from his Maker. He no longer reflected the divine image. His heart was at war with the principles of God's law. (GC 468)**

**Romans 3:10-12** There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

**'The law requires righteousness,--a righteous life, a perfect character; and this man has not to give. He cannot meet the claims of God's holy law. But Christ, coming to the earth as man, lived a holy life, and developed a perfect character. These He offers as a free gift to all who will receive them. His life stands for the life of men. Thus they have remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. More than this, Christ imbues men with the attributes of God. He builds up the human character after the similitude of the divine character, a goodly fabric of spiritual strength and beauty. Thus the very righteousness of the law is fulfilled in the believer in Christ.'**

**The Desire of Ages / Chap. 79 - "It is Finished"**

**Obedience is not the condition/obligation of God for us in the Everlasting Covenant.**

**Obedience is the promise/blessing of God for us in the Everlasting Covenant.**

**Hebrews 13:20,21** Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

**Psalms 23:3** He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

**Eze 36:25-27** Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.

**Job 33:26** He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, He shall see His face with joy, for He restores to man His righteousness.

## **Chap. 32 - The Law and the Covenants**

**The covenant of grace was first made with man in Eden, when after the Fall there was given a divine promise that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. To all men this covenant offered pardon and the assisting grace of God for future obedience through faith in Christ. It also promised them eternal life on condition of fidelity to God's law. {PP 370.2}**

**The law of God was the basis of this covenant, which was simply an arrangement for bringing men again into harmony with the divine will, placing them where they could obey God's law. – {PP 370.4}**

**The “new covenant” was established upon “better promises”—the promise of forgiveness of sins and of the grace of God to renew the heart and bring it into harmony with the principles of God's law. “This shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts. {PP 372.1}**

**When the principle of love is implanted in the heart, when man is renewed after the image of Him that created him, the new-covenant promise is fulfilled, “I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.” Hebrews 10:16. And if the law is written in the heart, will it not shape the life? Obedience—the service and allegiance of love—is the true sign of discipleship. Thus the Scripture says, “This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.” Instead of releasing man from obedience, it is faith, and faith only, that makes us partakers of the grace of Christ, which enables us to render obedience. – {SC 60.2}**

**The Everlasting Gospel/Covenant is God's remedy for sin; its work, therefore, must be to bring men into harmony with the law,—to cause the workings of the righteous law to be manifested in their lives.**

**But this is wholly a work of faith, the righteousness of God is revealed from "faith to faith," faith in the beginning, and faith to the end (Heb 12:2), as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."**

**AREN'T WE ASKED TO OBEY?** Exo 19:5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.

### **5. Promises: Forgiveness, Victory & Eradication**

- 1. FORGIVNESS OF SIN - READ GENESIS 3:21 & REVELATION 12:11**
- 2. VICTORY OVER SIN - READ GENESIS 3:15 & REVELATION 3:21; 12:14**
- 3. ERADICATION OF SIN – READ GENESIS 3:24 & REVELATION 22:2,3**

The covenant of grace was first made with man in Eden, when after the Fall there was given a divine promise that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. To all men this covenant offered **pardon** and **the assisting grace of God for future obedience through faith in Christ**. It also promised them **eternal life** on **condition of fidelity to God's law**. {PP 370.2}

#### 6. Condition: Believe & Live by faith in Christ

“Holiness is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love.” ‘Acts of the Apostles’ pg. 51

#### 7. Everything explained and detailed in Sanctuary and executed by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**The Everlasting Gospel (Great news!) is the story of how much God loves us & gave it all for us through Christ & how we have responded to His covenant of love & surrendered all to Him!**

#### **BONUS** Exodus 20: The Decalogue

Another example of Ellen White's insight being consistent with the original Hebrew is found in regard to the Ten Commandments, recorded in Exodus 20. Ellen White makes an astounding comment about the Decalogue: “The Ten Commandments . . . are ten promises. . . . There is not a negative in that law, although it may appear thus.” When one reads the Ten Commandments, they seem to be replete with negatives. Eight of the ten commandments start with the words: “Thou shalt not . . .” How could Ellen White say there is no negative in the Decalogue? I had always understood this in the sense of “All His biddings are enablings,” but I now believe there is a more direct and satisfying, yes, more biblical/exegetical explanation.

In light of Ellen White's statements, I looked closely at the Hebrew original of the Decalogue, examining the grammatical forms that are used in each one of the Ten Commandments. To my surprise, I found that the eight commandments that begin with “Thou shalt not” can, according to Hebrew grammar, be translated either as negative commands (prohibitions) or as emphatic promises. In harmony with the grammatical sentence structure one can translate these commandments thus: “[I promise you], you

will not have any other gods before Me! . . . You will not make for yourself any carved image. . . . You will not take the name of the Lord your God in vain . . .” “[I promise you that] you will not kill, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, covet.” Even the fourth and fifth commandments, which are not framed in the negative—“Remember the Sabbath . . .” “Honor your father and mother . . .”—do not use the imperative, which is the normal way of giving a positive command in biblical Hebrew. Rather, they use the infinitive absolute, which in Hebrew often indicates an intensive promise. God is saying, in effect, “[I promise you], you will remember the Sabbath. You will honor your father and mother!” And so each of the commandments can be translated either as a command or a promise.

I suggest that Ellen White’s insight is further reinforced by recognizing the significance of the prologue to the Ten Commandments. One’s experience (and consequent translation) of the “Ten Words” all depends on where one begins the Ten Commandments. As a child I was taught the Decalogue started with verse 3, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” But that is not where the Ten Commandments begin. That is not where God starts speaking. The Decalogue begins in verse 2, where Yahweh says, “I am the Lord your God who has brought you out of the house of bondage.” In effect, God says, “I have redeemed you by the blood of the Lamb. You are already saved and now I am going to promise you power to keep My law.” If one starts in verse 2, the commandments that follow become promises: “I promise you, you won’t have any other gods before Me. You won’t take My name in vain. You will remember the Sabbath. You will honor your father and mother . . .”

“There is not a negative in that law.” Ellen White did not know Hebrew grammar, but under prophetic inspiration she provided a gospel-centered insight into the Word that is supported by the original language of the biblical passage.