

The Gospel is “Good News”!

**Luke 2:8-11** (NLT) - That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup>but the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. <sup>11</sup>The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!”

The Gospel is Free!

**Romans 6:23** (NLT) - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel, however, is not cheap.

Three illustrations that characterize the cost of the Gospel:

**1. Construction of a building (Deliberation)**

**Luke 14:28** (NLT) - “But don’t begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it?”

**2. Going to war (Negotiation)**

**Luke 14:31** (NLT) - “Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him?”

**3. Seasoning food (Examination)**

**Luke 14:34** (NLT) - “Salt is good for seasoning. But if it loses its flavor, how do you make it salty again?”