

# GRACE

BREVARD

*To Enjoy and Express the Freeing Hope of Jesus*



# POWER.FULLY.WEAK.

May 23, 2021

2Cor 4:1-6

“The Light of the Gospel”

*<sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*

# Recap of 2Cor 1-3

1:4 (God) comforts us in all our affliction

1:20 For all the promises of God find their Yes in (Christ).

1:22 given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

2:7 turn to forgive and comfort him,

3:5b but our sufficiency is from God,

3:17 where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

## 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.



<sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

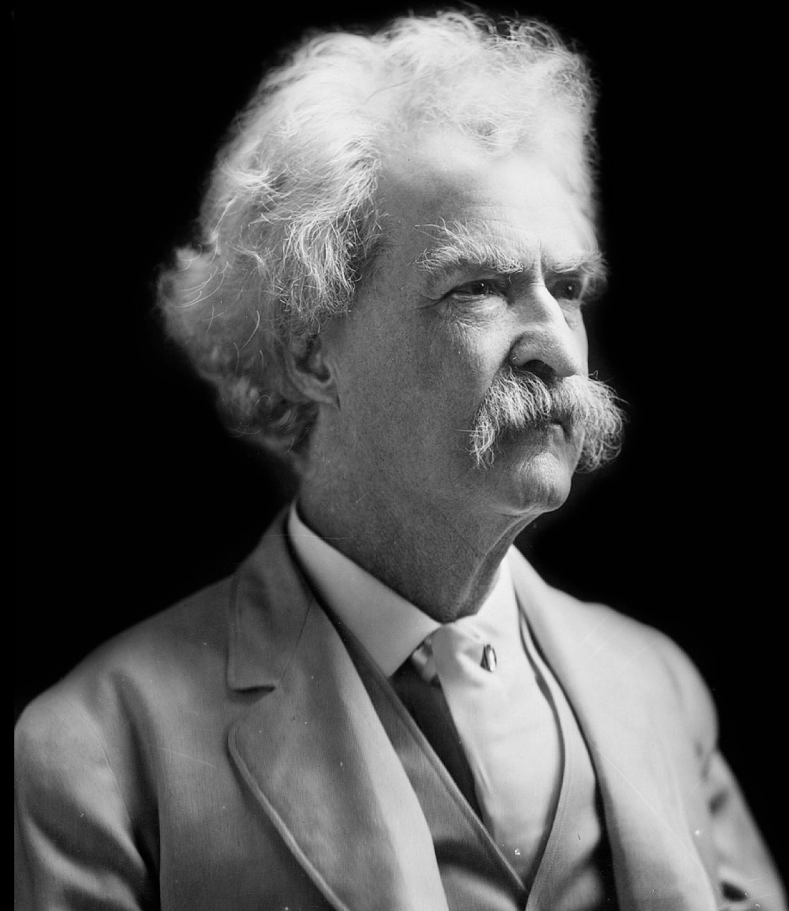
<sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.





Of animals, (Sir John Herschel) classified nine species of mammalia, and five of ovipara. Among the former is a small kind of rein-deer, the elk, the moose, the horned bear, and the biped beaver. The last resembles the beaver of the earth in every other respect than in its destitution of a tail, and its invariable habit of walking upon only two feet. It carries its young in its arms like a human being, and moves with an easy gliding motion."

Great Astronomical Discoveries  
Lately Made, The Sun, Thursday,  
August 27, 1835



“Reports of my death have  
been greatly exaggerated.”

Mark Twain, 1897

# Fake Gospel

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Twisting Scripture to say what I want it to say

2Co 11:3

But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

*Video:*  
*“Hook” by Blues Traveler*

# Not “Non-Gospel” but “Anti-Gospel”

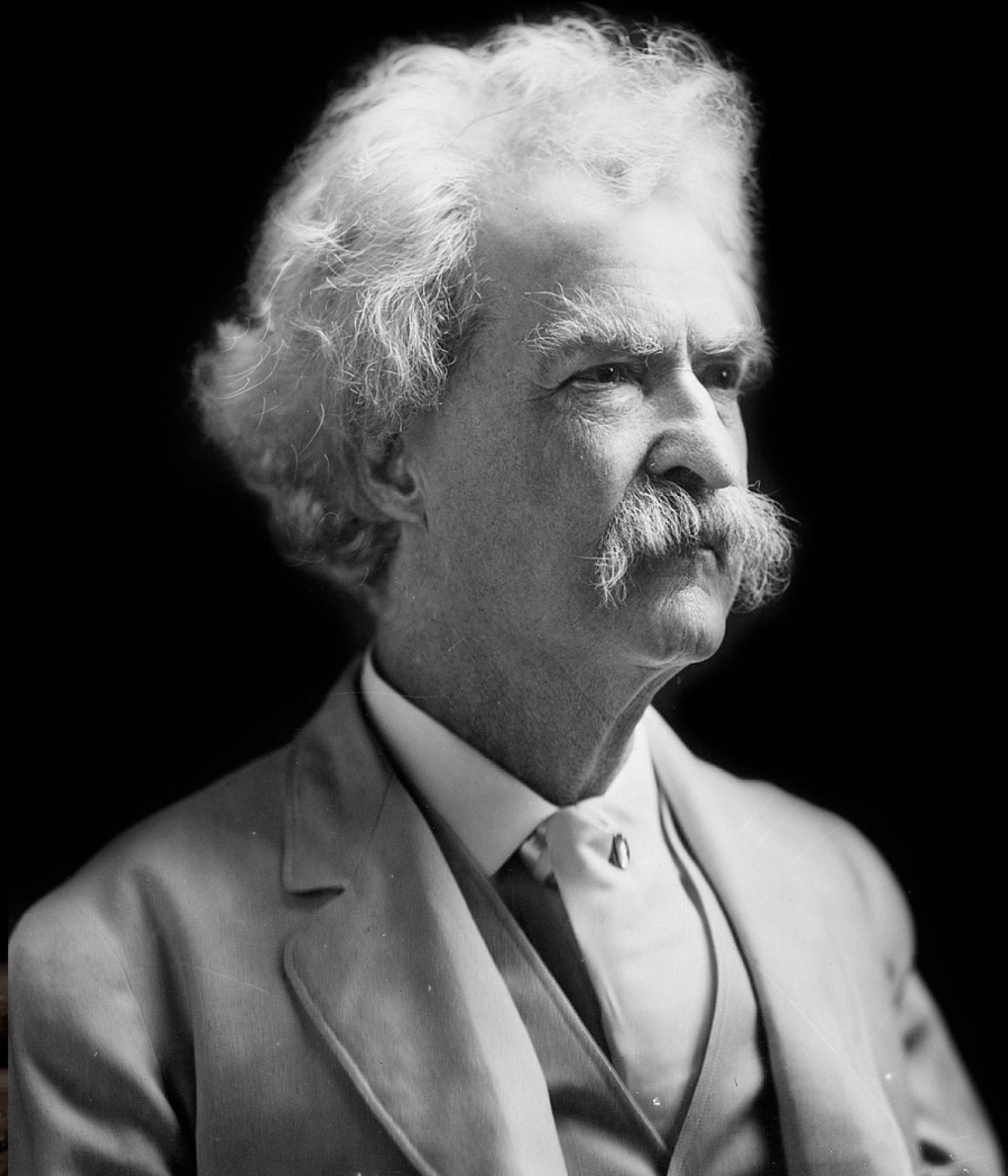
(Bryan Chapel, previous President of Covenant Seminary)

## 2Timothy 4:3

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

## Ephesians 4:14

so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.



“It’s easier to fool people  
than to convince them that  
they have been fooled.”

Mark Twain

# True Gospel

1. What IS the Gospel?
2. What does it mean to be a Christian?
3. How do I become a Christian?



# Why we believe what we believe

<sup>2</sup> But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with ***God's word,***

1. Logic
2. Feelings
3. Tradition
4. Scripture



<sup>6</sup> For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give **the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death,

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.



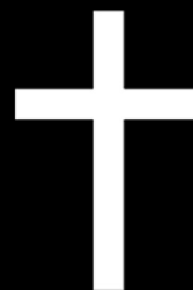


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Fall



Redemption



<sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give **the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Creation



Fall



Redemption



Restoration



Light Out  
of Darkness

Light Eclipsed  
by Darkness

Light Into  
Darkness

Light Instead  
of Darkness

## Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,  
<sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>  
For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus  
for good works, which God prepared beforehand,  
that we should walk in them.



**You are far worse  
than you could ever imagine**

**And far more loved  
than you could ever dream**

**Romans 8:1**

**There is therefore now no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus.**



# Living Gospel

Jesus, the Living Gospel

Us, Living Out the Gospel

<sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit,  
and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

*In Essentials, Unity*  
*In Non-Essentials, Liberty*  
*In All Things, Charity*



# Nicene Creed (AD325)

We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.



And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.





For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit  
and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried.  
The third day he rose again,  
according to the Scriptures.



He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.



And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

\* catholic means "universal"