A street scene at sunset or sunrise, with tram tracks leading towards a bright light source. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light. On the left side of the street, there are several bicycles parked along the sidewalk. On the right side, a dark car is parked. The tram tracks run down the center of the street, leading the eye towards the bright light at the end of the road. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

**Explaining the
Gospel in an age of
Biblical illiteracy**

Adrian Warnock

The goal of evangelism is to make a mystery clear. The gospel is not a mystery because it is confusing or obscure like a tricky riddle. It's a mystery because no one would ever know it or think of it unless God had made it plain. **John Piper**

How to Teach People to Share the Gospel

- Assume nothing
- Explain simply
- Conversations not monologue

What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the good news that God became man in Jesus Christ.

He lived the life we should have lived, died the death we should have died in our place.

Three days later He was raised from the dead, proving He is the son of God and offering the gift of salvation to all who repent and believe the gospel.

Rice Brooks

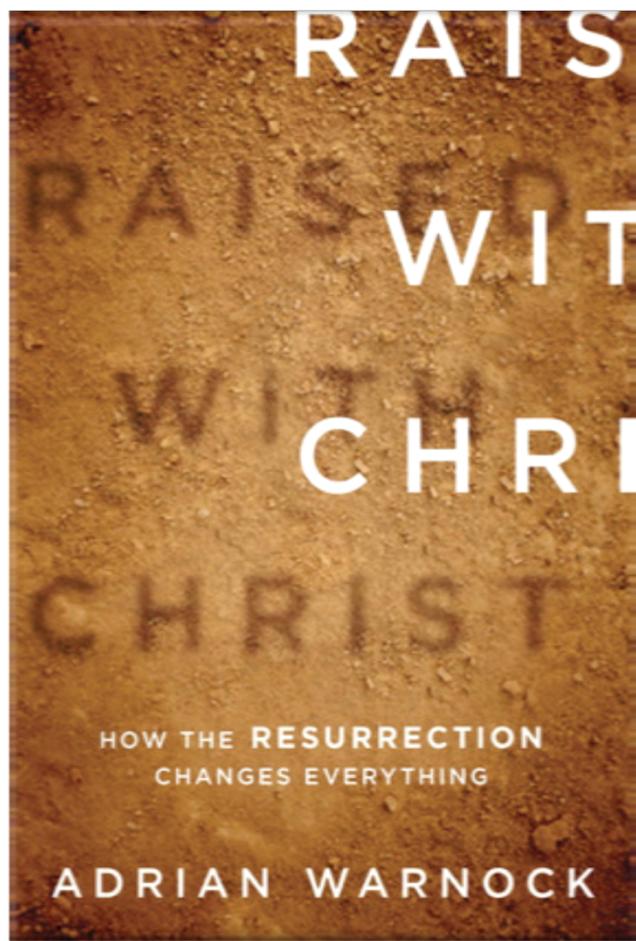
The **STORY** of the **GOSPEL**

1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures

Do we Preach the Whole Gospel?

- Modern preaching tends to assume the resurrection and emphasize the cross
- Preaching in the book of Acts assumes the cross and emphasizes the resurrection
- Only in the resurrection can we find hope



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HOW THE **RESURRECTION**
CHANGES EVERYTHING

ADRIAN WARNOCK

What Does the Gospel Mean for Us?

STAGE ONE: DEAD IN SIN



WITHOUT GOD WE ARE:

“dead in trespasses and sins”

“following the course of this world”

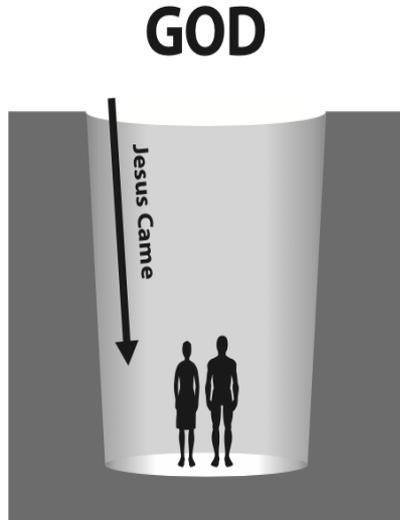
“carrying out the desires of the
body and the mind”

“by nature children of wrath”

(Ephesians 2:1-3)

We are all trapped in a pit called sin, which separates us from God. Nothing we can do ourselves will ever save us. All our efforts to please God are hopeless.

STAGE TWO: MADE ALIVE



BUT GOD, WHO IS RICH IN MERCY:

“loved us, even when we were dead”

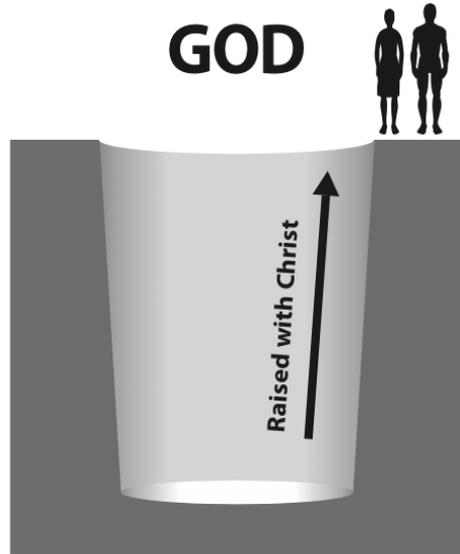
“made us alive together with Christ.”

(Ephesians 2:4-5)

While we are still dead in our sin, Jesus came into our pit to rescue us. Through His death and resurrection Jesus provided us with the only way out.

Many rejected Him, but, “to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12).

STAGE THREE: RAISED WITH CHRIST



“raised us up with him”
“seated us with him”
“so that he might show the im-
measurable riches of his grace.”
(Ephesians 2:6-7)

When someone becomes a Christian, they are made alive with Jesus, who lifts them out of the pit, and he or she is now in a relationship with God. The above process needs to become real and personal in an individual's life. HOW?

The **RESPONSE** the Gospel Demands

The very first sermon preached on the day of Pentecost tells us:

- **Repent** and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit** ... there were **added** that day about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:38-41)

Step One: Repent

- Leads naturally to the others and is the most critical
- Four components
 - a change of mind
 - a change of heart
 - change of behavior
 - change of direction.

Step One: Repent

- Often used interchangeably with believe
- What we THINK affects how we BEHAVE.
- Don't merely change the externals, you MUST be BORN AGAIN

What do we need to believe?

- What does repentance look like?
- Romans 10:9 tells us and is a great place to take someone who is ready to become a Christian:

“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”

"CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH"

- Tell someone you want to become a Christian.
- Tell God, ourselves, and other people that we will now follow Jesus.
- This solidifies our commitment to a relationship with God and transforms us.
- Usually another Christian will be the best person to tell first.

"JESUS IS LORD"

- Choose to worship Him as God and follow Him as your Lord.
- Admit that you have sinned against Him. Ask Him to forgive you.
- You cannot be a Christian and carry on living for yourself. If Jesus is your Lord, you must obey Him and give Him your total allegiance.

When Jesus says, "Follow me," it's not like on Twitter where you simply press a button. He wants your whole life. **Tope Koleoso**

“BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD.”

- Thank Him for dying for you and rising from the dead for you.
- One definition of a Christian is: “Someone who believes in the physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and lives their life in light of the implications of that event.”

There is no more important question than, **“Did Jesus rise from the dead?”** This is the foundation on which the Christian faith stands or falls. As Paul explains, if Jesus were still dead then we would have no hope (1 Corinthians 15:14-19).

Ensure Your People Know the Evidence for Jesus' Resurrection

Free article which examines the evidence for
Jesus' resurrection is available at
adrianwarnock.com/resurrection.

Almost anywhere you go in the world today you will meet Christians. They worship in different ways, and even believe some different things. But they all agree that Jesus rose again, He is alive!

HE will build his church, he is not finished with the UK yet.