

ASK ANYTHING!

1. **QUESTION:** Are practicing Jewish people going to heaven? I am familiar with John 14:6, however aren't they Gods chosen people? Didn't He give them their laws?

The Bible clearly teaches that salvation from spiritual death to spiritual life is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. If a person places their faith in the one and only authentic Jesus, they will receive the gift of authentic eternal life. However, if a person places their faith in an inauthentic Jesus, they would only receive an inauthentic salvation. It is the object of our faith, Jesus Christ, not the strength of our faith that saves us. *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”* Ephesians 2:8-9.

So, the answer to your first question is: Anyone who believes in Christ for eternal life will be saved and anyone who does not believe in Christ for eternal life is condemned already because of their unbelief. *“Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”* John 3:18

The Jews are God’s chosen people in that through them came the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Jesus said of himself that He came to fulfill the law given to the Jews and not to abolish it.

2. **What’s the difference between a teacher and a preacher?**

The primary meaning associated with the nature of preaching in the New Testament comes from the fact that the Greek word most frequently used to describe a preacher was that of a herald. A herald was one who announced a message, generally from the king or some other ruling authority, to those who had not heard it before. Preaching in New Testament times therefore related primarily to **announcing** good news. In the New Testament, the content of that good news centered around the themes of Jesus, Christ, the word, the gospel, and the kingdom. On the other hand, the nature of teaching in New Testament times was primarily to explain ideas and their implications, and to exhort people to live by declared values.

Whereas the Great Commission in Matthew requires that we “make disciples,” Mark declares that we are to “preach the gospel” (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15). Matthew builds upon this, however, to say that after disciples have been made, we are to be “teaching them all things whatsoever I have commanded you.” Paul’s work

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in Rome is described as “preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 28:31). Paul himself used these concepts of preaching and teaching when he said, “Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus” (Colossians 1:28). The pattern is consistent – preaching (making announcement) precedes teaching (explanation, clarification, application, exhortation).

Sometimes, people spoke interchangeably about the practice of teaching and preaching. Thus, whereas Matthew 4:23 declares that Jesus was “teaching in the synagogues;” Mark and Luke indicate that he was “preaching” (Mark 1:39, Luke 4:44). In Jerusalem, the same apostles who were “proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead” were at the same time “teaching the people” (Acts 4:2). Whereas the term preaching consistently refers to the message announced, the term teaching may have people as its object.

In Antioch, the work of Paul and Barnabas is described as “teaching and preaching the word of the Lord” (Acts 15:35). Since teaching is mentioned before preaching in this verse, it may be that the major emphasis of their work at this place and time was in teaching the brethren while their secondary emphasis was on preaching to the unconverted. In any case, preaching and teaching go together. He who preaches (announces to the unconverted) also generally teaches (explains, clarifies, applies, and exhorts those who are already familiar with what has already been announced).

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3. Is it possible to include the entire service on the Facebook live event each Sunday? Our worship team with music is awesome and I believe could increase the blessing to those watching.

Yes. We are currently working on a solution to this. Jeff and I would love to have this up a running as soon as possible. Without getting too technical, I will just say that the sermon is easier to broadcast because only one microphone and one camera are needed to capture what I am doing. When the worship team leads us in music, there are numerous microphones needed and we would also need multiple cameras to get all the angles. I anticipate this will be all ready to go in early 2018.

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