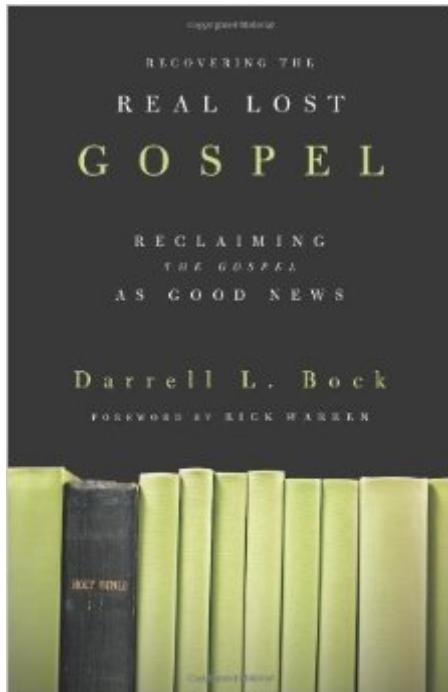


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Recovering The Real Lost Gospel: Reclaiming The Gospel As Good News



Synopsis

While some seek so-called lost gospels, Darrell L. Bock suggests the real lost gospel is the one already found in the Bible and reminds everyone of what it means: good news. Praise for *Recovering the Real Lost Gospel* "Darrell Bock is one of the church's finest New Testament scholars. He has the unique ability to write on both the technical and popular level and presents a biblical theology of the gospel that is clear, robust, and holistic." This is a valuable contribution to helping us rightly understand the greatness of the gospel." Daniel L. Akin, president, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary "You are holding in your hands a really rare book--one that goes all the way back to the New Testament in connecting the gospel and the cross with the life of discipleship and the mission of the church in a broken world that needs the message of grace." Darrell Bock is one of our best biblical theologians and is at his best in this new study." Timothy George, dean, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University "Recovering the Real Lost Gospel is a welcomed corrective and timely guide for so many individuals and churches who seemingly have lost their way amidst the confusing spirituality and mixed religious messages of our day." David S. Dockery, president, Union University "Bock teaches us the essence of the best news ever told. The gospel is so much more than good advice . . . it is the message of life, hope, grace, and Jesus himself! Get ready to be reminded why it is the best news ever!" Pete Briscoe, senior pastor, Bent Tree Bible Fellowship (Dallas, Texas) "Too many Christians think of 'the Gospel' as merely the last page of an evangelistic tract. Bock demonstrates with clarity and vision that the gospel is better news than some have dared to hope. Read this book, and let its wisdom drive you to worship and to mission." Russell D. Moore, dean, School of Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: B&H Academic (November 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805464654

ISBN-13: 978-0805464658

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #163,105 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #211 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Criticism & Interpretation > New Testament #223 in Books

Customer Reviews

I learned of Darrell Bock's book, "Recovering the Real Lost Gospel" as I read Scot McKnight's more recent book on the same topic, The King Jesus Gospel: The Original Good News Revisited. Both books assert that modern Protestant churches have altered the good news of Christianity by reducing it to a business transaction between God and his creation. Both books make a decent argument that the Gospel is bigger than what theologians call "forensic justification," but Bock does a better job describing what the "larger" good news of Christianity really is. Bock contends that "God has taken the initiative in Jesus Christ to bring us into relationship with Him. At the core of that good news stands a promise to form a new relationship and a new community." As Bock says elsewhere in the book, the gospel is about "God's pursuit of us in relationship as He restores creation to its intended design." The author argues that relationship in the Spirit, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and living in a way that is pleasing to God are part and parcel of the good news of Christianity. I enjoyed "Recovering the Real Lost Gospel" very much; it is well-written, rationally organized, and quotes rather than cites scripture in support of its arguments. I recommend it highly to all Protestant Christians, especially those who suspect that there might be more to Christianity than the "Four Spiritual Laws." That being said, I wish that Bock had included a discussion of the significance for the Gospel of the sermon(s) by Jesus commonly called the "Sermon on the Mount.

I never know the Real Gospel was ever lost...well, sort of. By that I mean I know the Real Gospel exists and that it is still believed, preached and taught in many churches across our nation; however, in a sense, as New York Times bestselling author and professor of New Testament Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary, Darrel Bock writes, in our society and culture and even in many churches and many so called Bible Colleges/Seminaries, it does appear to be lost. The message that is being called the Gospel and being preached or taught is such is not really the REAL Gospel at all. And that alarms me and causes me a profound sense of grief because people are hearing what they think is the Gospel and responding to it and in some or maybe perhaps even in many cases are not receiving and believing the Real Gospel and are still lost in their sin. They, of course believe otherwise; however their lives do not show that they do believe and wholly embrace The Real Gospel. And as far as what the Scriptures teaches, no evidence of Sanctification, that is transformation of a person's life by their faith in Jesus Christ and the Real Gospel, most likely there

is no salvation either leading to a whole mass of people who are deceived and lost. How dreadful a thought that is which should drive us to our knees in fervent prayer that God will use men like Dr. Bock and others to help the pastors in churches in America once again preach the REAL Gospel which will lead to REAL conversions on the part of the people who attend and respond to the Gospel call. Dr. Bock introduces his book with what he refers to as "The Gospel from the Hub to the Whole: More Than Dying in Sin." As he writes in his introduction The Cross is the starting point but not the whole message.

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