

## THE GOSPEL IN A SINGLE WORD

### Revelation 22:17

**Introduction:** What single word when uttered by God is like music through the heavens? What word was spoken to Noah and his family before the earth was flooded? What was the word that the prophets constantly preached? What one word did Jesus utter that brought Peter to Him? What one word did Jesus speak often? What is that one word which when obeyed by people brings joy to the angels in heaven? What is the word that when disobeyed brings sorrow to Jesus? What one word sums up all of the Gospel story and is inscribed over the gates of heaven?

That precious word is - **COME**. It is the great word of the Gospel. GO is the word of the law thus showing the gap between God and us. The Gospel bridges that gap with God's great invitation "COME."

### I. NOAH AND THE FLOOD (*Genesis 7:1*)

1. Noah is presented at the stage of history when there is a great crisis in the human race.
2. The people had left God and after looking all over the world God found only Noah still loyal and faithful to Him.
3. God told Noah of His plans to destroy the world and gave Noah plans to build a big boat.
4. Noah was then told to gather two of every living things into the boat (Ark).
5. God then said "**COME thou and all thy house into the ark...**"
6. God then flooded the earth and all air breathing creatures died that were not on the Ark.
7. The Ark has been a symbol to Christians of their hope and faith.
8. Today, in a way, the Church represents that Ark.
9. God says again today to us, "**COME into the ark, thou and thy house.**"

### II. CHRIST AND BARTIMAEUS (*Matthew 10:46*)

1. A blind man sat on the street side of the busy Jericho streets and begged.
2. The blind man, Bartimaeus, heard that Jesus was passing by and called out, "**Jesus of Nazareth son of David, have mercy on me...**"
3. There were many others shouting, calling and making much noise but Jesus heard this one voice out of the many "**...and Jesus stood still...**" Jesus, Son of God, stopped to hear this voice of sorrow crying out.
4. Jesus told His disciples to call him, tell him to COME to me.
5. Jesus then asked the blind man what he wanted and was answered by the blind man, "to see.."
6. Jesus then said, "**Go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole...**"
7. Note three things Jesus did: He was passing by. He stopped. He called for the blind man to COME to Him.
8. What if Bartimaeus had not called upon Jesus? What if Jesus had not told him to COME?
9. Jesus is also passing our way and it may very well be the last time for some. Once again Jesus stands still and He now calls for YOU to COME to Him.

### III. THE LAST "COME" OF THE BIBLE (*Revelation 22:17*)

1. There are many, many more times that beautiful word COME has been spoken such as:  
*"Suffer the little children to COME unto me..."*  
- *"Go sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven, and COME and follow me."*  
- *"Come unto me and I will give you rest..."*
2. All the times that wonderful word echos and re-echos through the pages of the Bible are summed up in this final invitation. The invitation that brings to close all the words and all the invitations of the Bible - *"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come, and let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst, Come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."*
3. Water is used by God to describe beauty, necessity and is used as an invitation to all who would partake of God's wonderful grace, mercy, and salvation. *"Come and drink..."*

### CONCLUSION:

1. "COME" is the Gospel in a single Word. That word which God spoke to Noah which spared Noah's life from the flood.
2. Though the pages of history there have been prophets, preachers, apostles who all have said "COME."
3. The Bible tells of Christ, the Cross, the Crucifixion, the Death, the Resurrection and God sums all that up in one word - "COME!" Such a beautiful word, so full of tenderness, love and compassion.
4. All that you can possible know, wonder or think about God can be answered in His one wonderful word, "COME."
5. Whatever your need is today, God says "COME."