

What is Evangelical?

To be 'Evangelical' is to understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in His word and to preach this Gospel to all peoples. To evangelize means to follow out the Great Commission as ordered by Christ by bringing the good news to the lost, exhorting them to repent and turn back from their wickedness done in rebellion to the Most High, and imploring them to beg for forgiveness, that His judicious wrath might not fall upon them. The lost must understand that in fact they are lost, and in such a state will spend eternity in the fires of hell. The glad tidings are for those who will fall before God's throne and ask for the atonement that His own Son has made in their stead. They must be instructed to believe in and rest upon the grace of God for their salvation, and be encouraged to pursue a life of faith in service to their new Master, the Lord Jesus Christ. The term 'Evangelical' also refers to a basic or fundamental understanding and appreciation of the Gospel. This message is defined and explained in the Holy Bible, and these particulars separate the true Gospel from other gospels. Throughout the history of the Church there have been many who have questioned and rebelled against what is clearly taught in the scriptures, so as to confuse the body of Christ and to tear apart the flock as ravenous wolves are wont to do. Servants of Christ have fought heresies through much toil so that Christ's church might remain pure.

An Evangelical church typically believes in the following:

1. The completed word of God, the Holy Bible, is inerrant, infallible and authoritative. Its purpose is to teach who God is and what God expects from man.
2. God is of three natures - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, but is of one substance. He alone is due all glory, honor, and worship.
3. God has redeemed all believers through the work of His Son, who was born of the virgin Mary, who fulfilled the law, who died a vicarious (substitutionary) death and whose blood was once for all an atonement, and who was bodily resurrected and is at the right hand of the Father.
4. Those redeemed have been saved by God's grace alone through faith alone. There is none who can merit salvation in any way, for all are guilty under the law.
5. The Lord Jesus has promised to return one day and judge both the living and the dead.

See Matthew 28.18-20; 2 Timothy 3.16; Deuteronomy 6.4-5; Colossians 1.9-23; Romans 2:1-10, 4:1-5; Ephesians 2:8-9; Revelation 22:12-16

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