

# North Christian Church -

## Pastor Ed Collins

[www.nccdighton.org](http://www.nccdighton.org)

11/1/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 16

### Outline:

#### **Doubting Salvation**

A believer may at times be tempted to doubt their own salvation, however, a true believer will seek Him for answers and find Him every time...as well as their assurance.

#### **The Gospel Reality**

There are two aspects of the Gospel truth that are presented in the Bible, the Godward and the manward. It is imperative that you understand the CONTEXT of a passage in order to understand which aspect is in view, if not both.

#### **Will Metzger**

*Regeneration and conversion are words to describe two different ways of viewing salvation. Regeneration is viewing salvation from God's side; it is an instantaneous impartation of new life to the soul. We may or may not be conscious of the exact moment this happened to us.*

#### **Will Metzger**

*Conversion, on the other hand, is viewing salvation from our perspective. It is a process of the entire work of God's grace from the first dawning of understanding and seeking, to the final closing with Christ in new birth. For some, this is a period of years; for others merely an hour. We respond in time to God's action in eternity."*

#### **Eph 2:8-9**

*For by grace ["God gives grace to the humble" - Jas 4:6] you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

#### **The Heart Issue of the Gospel**

Facts are never enough. We must TRUST the Architect of our salvation ("the author and perfecter of our faith" - Heb 12:2)...that His good work is SUFFICIENT to save us, IF we even think that we NEED saving (aka if we possess a repentant heart).

## **The Heart Issue of the Gospel**

The interesting thing about passages that contain lots of details about the Gospel is that nowhere does the Bible indicate that a person has to know EVERY aspect of those passages to be saved (e.g.: Eph 2).

## **The Gospel**

The Gospel is the "Gospel of Jesus Christ" NOT the "gospel of justification by faith"! The Gospel cannot be whittled down to the forensically presented judicial aspects of salvation.

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## **"wishes"**

from thelo - means to will, wish: - am willing; to desire, to intend; in context, refers to a person's free will (volition); when God sees this as positive towards the Gospel, He gives the gift of salvation by grace; God sees the heart

## **J. Vernon McGee**

*The person who will not assume the risks involved in becoming a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ will, in the long run, lose his life eternally.*

## **The "Manward" Issue**

The ONLY thing standing in the way of a person's salvation is the person (and his enemies, ala 2Co 4:4)!

## **The Plain Facts**

God sees the heart. The Spirit works on the human heart, convicting it of the Gospel truth. Man's free will can reject the indescribable Gift, Jesus Christ.

## **The Plain Facts**

God the Holy Spirit prepares the unbeliever's human heart to make it ready to receive the Gospel truth. If, even after that, a person rejects the guaranteed perfect presentation of the Gospel, well, that person has a problem. (Heb 6:4-6)

## **Watchman Nee**

*The Holy Spirit does not work alone; rather, He works through the cross. Without the cross, the Holy Spirit has no ground to work. Without the Holy Spirit, the work of the cross is dead. Although it has already had been effective toward God, it has no effectiveness toward man.*

## **Watchman Nee**

*If man merely understands in his mentality and there is no Holy Spirit to regenerate him within his spirit, his understanding cannot help him. If what man believes in is of man's wisdom, not of God's power, he is merely stimulated in the soul and cannot last long, because he is not regenerated. Only those who believe with the heart (Rom. 10:10) can be saved and receive regeneration.*

## **Watchman Nee**

*The work of the Holy Spirit in regenerating us is to reprove us of our sins and*

*lead us to repentance that we may believe and know the Savior; thus, He gives us a new nature.*

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### **A Common Mistake**

The contemporary mistake in mainstream Christianity seems to be in taking the basic judicial aspects of salvation (the Godward side) and presenting them as the complete Gospel.