North Christian Church -Pastor Ed Collins

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11/5/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 17

Outline:

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."

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 Full Conditions of the Gospel

BEFORE a person is even ABLE to get into the boat, Jesus places the full Gospel before them and says, "Do you accept my terms?"

Counting the Cost

It means that a heart must be presented with the fullness of the Gospel so that it can make a decision that satisfies God's integrity.

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).

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.

You and Grace

If your heart is right, then God will give you the appropriate abilities to "do" whatever He's asking you to do.

The Gospel Analogy

Jesus Christ, the builder, says, "You're going to drown in your sins unless you get into the boat and leave everything behind. Trust Me. I built the boat Myself - it is seaworthy and able to save you. Trust Me. My Spirit will pull you into the boat with Me. Don't worry about how. Trust Me. OK?"

You and Grace

If, when presented with the Gospel, we "accept the terms and conditions" of it with humble hearts, God will quicken and empower us to believe, repent, and have saving faith.

You and Grace

It's true, a person really DOES "do" works, at salvation and afterwards. The simple key is to understand the existence of God's power in those activities.

The Gospel Reality

Once you have the Gospel rightly situated in your soul, the ENTIRE Bible explodes into full view!

The Gospel Reality

Once you understand how simple God's salvation is, and you drop your "control issues", and you TRUST in the Lord God, all is peaceful and well in your soul.

The Gospel Reality

Jesus Christ is the Builder and the Captain of the U.S.S. Salvation. He trained up His disciples (beginning with His apostles) to defend the ship, and when not doing that, to extol the virtues of it to those inside.