

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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11/12/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part

19

## Outline:

**Arrogance is unteachable.**

**"faith...faith"**

the first refers to a continuation of believing the truth, the second refers to the content of the Gospel

**"a good conscience"**

God has given each of us a conscience that acts like a rudder on a ship, guiding us. Those who ignore their good conscience, turning away from "the faith" are the apostates who "suffer shipwreck".

**Jn 15:20**

*"Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also."*

**Nothing new under the sun (Ecc 1:9)**

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has been under attack since the Fall in the Garden.

**A Different gospel**

God was pleased with Abel because he was grace-oriented; his good work of a blood sacrifice being the proof of his faith in God. Cain lived by a "different" gospel, one that included human works, which are the antithesis of grace.

**The Judaizer's Different gospel**

The message of a gospel of works was their disease...and they spread it abundantly and with meticulous precision. The apostles were constantly "fighting the good fight of faith" (ala 1Ti 1, 6).

**Different gospel Sources Today**

- Hollywood systematically portrays, "I'd better be good so I can get to heaven"
- Society rejects the idea of a savior NOT being oneself (or a self-chosen savior)

that isn't Jesus)

- Fictional literature is often premised on "saviors" of a variety of forms
- "saviors" are sometimes human, sometimes not (e.g.: Transformers, Terminator, etc.)
- Even holidays (Santa Claus - "you'd better be good...") are based on works programs, not grace

**Heb 13:8**

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

**Teach a perverted Gospel and you are to be accursed!**

**"Nothing new under the sun" - Solomon (Ecc 1:9)**

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has been under attack since the Fall in the Garden. Cain rejected grace, as did the religious Jews during Paul's time, as do legalistic folks today.

**Without Grace, There's No Gospel**

To fully understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you must understand that He is the very manifestation of grace (Jn 1:14-17).

**"grace upon grace"**

refers to the superabundance of God's grace. Believers are especially appreciative at salvation and increasingly so as part of sanctification.

**Jas 4:6 [Amplified]**

*But He gives us more and more grace [through the power of the Holy Spirit to defy sin and live an obedient life that reflects both our faith and our gratitude for our salvation]. Therefore, it says, "God is opposed to the proud and haughty, but [continually] gives [the gift of] grace to the humble [who turn away from self-righteousness]."*

**R. C. Sproul**

*Luther was looking now at the Greek word that was in the New Testament, not the Latin word. The word *dikaïos*, *dikaïosune*, which didn't mean to make righteous, but rather to regard as righteous, to count as righteous, to declare as righteous.*

**R. C. Sproul**

*And this was the moment of awakening for Luther. He said, "You mean, here Paul is not talking about the righteousness by which God Himself is righteous, but a righteousness that God gives freely by His grace to people who don't have righteousness of their own."*

**R. C. Sproul**

*And so Luther said, "Woa, you mean the righteousness by which I will be saved, is not mine?" It's what he called a *justitia alienum*, an alien righteousness; a righteousness that belongs properly to somebody else. It's a righteousness that is *extra nos*, outside of us. Namely, the righteousness of Christ.*

**R. C. Sproul**

*And Luther said, "When I discovered that, I was born again of the Holy Ghost.*

*And the doors of paradise swung open, and I walked through."*

### **Unfathomable Grace**

Grace simply cannot be overstated for the simple fact that mere man cannot fathom all of it. (Job 9:10; Ro 11:33; Eph 3:8)

### **"grace upon grace"**

refers to the superabundance of God's grace. Believers are especially appreciative at salvation and increasingly so as part of sanctification.

**The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a calling to grace.**

### **Lk 8:18**

*"So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."*