

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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9/15/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 2

Outline:

Today's "gospel"

The "gospel" today is a cheap, emotional gospel, NOT the one that Jesus Christ preached! It has been watered down to something that Jesus would have rejected as Truth. Believing a wrong gospel doesn't result in salvation.

"strive"

from agonizomai - means to fight, to struggle, to strive; literally, to agonize; Jamieson-Fausset-Brown - signifies to "contend" as for the mastery, to "struggle," expressive of the difficulty of being saved, as if one would have to force his way in.

The Narrow Gate

"for many...will seek" - "desire," that is, with a mere wish or slothful endeavor...

"and shall not be able" - because it must be made a life-and-death struggle -

Jamieson-Fausset-Brown

The Narrow Gate

Pure Violence - blog

The greatest injury we can ever play a part in is the same one that Satan has dealt mankind from the beginning - a false gospel.

The Great Commission

If there's only one thing we ever get right (I speak as a man does), let it be the Gospel!

Evangelism

Is the Gospel a simple presentation of facts followed by a mental assent to

believe those facts? Or is there more to it than that? Does simply believing that Jesus is real and that He wants to give them blessings save a person?

Easy-Believism

"Easy-Believism" is the false doctrine that God saves those who merely offer mental assent without the Biblical conditions of the heart being met. This is part of the broad way that leads to destruction (Mat 7:13).

"there are few who find it"

Jesus taught that one must diligently LOOK for it in order to find salvation; those who express faith in something they hardly look for won't find it; God promises to save those who seek Him (Pro 8:17; Jer 29:13; Luke 11:9)

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Heart Issues

Jesus will NOT tolerate anything but an absolute decision in the soul of every individual. The heart must be repentant of sin and looking to the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

Heart Issues

Only a person who's willing to surrender themselves, giving up the self-life, exchanging the worldly yoke for the Lord's, is eligible for salvation. (Mat 16:24-26; Luke 18:18-27)

1Jo 3:17

But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

Testing the "Self-Life" Heart

The ruler, though he wanted eternal life, refused the conditions of salvation. He specifically refused to give up the self-life for the life the Lord Jesus offered him.

Mat 19:22

But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.

Testing the "Self-Life" Heart

ONLY God can impute R+ to an individual...Jesus said, "Follow Me"...however, for an unrepentant heart, that is literally impossible (Mat 16:24-25)! Self-righteousness cannot be any part of salvation, only God's R+ can make it possible (Luke 18:26-27).

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"false prophets [teachers]"

refers to teachers of false gospels; they are known by their fruit (eg: if they preach Christ but live unrepentant, sinful lives, we must consider their doctrines - it's possible some aren't even saved)