

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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9/20/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 4

Outline:

"contend"

from epagonizomai - comes from the fierce competition of the athletic field; means to struggle; to fight with all one's strength (ref: to preserve "the faith")

"once for all"

from hapax - means ; refers to the fact that the Gospel message was given to the Church at the beginning; it had not come in installments; it's content is fixed, not to be revised for each new era

Antinomianism

Baker's Dictionary of Theology

The word comes from the Greek anti, against, and nomos, law, and signifies opposition to law. It refers to the doctrine that the moral law is not binding upon Christians as a rule of life.

Antinomianism

Baker's Dictionary of Theology

In a wider sense it is applied to the views of fanatics who refuse to recognize any law but their own subjective ideas which they usually claim are from the Holy Spirit.

Faith

Faith WILL produce works. It is the great litmus test for those who proclaim to be saved. It's impossible for a believer to NOT produce works. If a professor of faith never produces fruit, they are proven unsaved.

"he will keep"

from tereo - means to keep; to guard; properly, maintain (preserve); (figuratively) spiritually guard (watch), keep intact; future-active-indicative means they DOGMATICALLY WILL!

Pro 15:9

The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but He loves one who pursues righteousness.

A Convenient "gospel"

Too many professing Christians have never addressed the issue of their depravity. They have simply given mental assent to a cheap gospel and told they are heading for Heaven.

A Convenient "gospel"

For a person to say they love Jesus (implying that they are saved) but then NOT keep His word (eg: obey His commandments as a way of life = He is Lord) is for that person to challenge the veracity of Jesus' own words in John 14! There is no obedience implied in easy-believism.

A Convenient "gospel"

Too many professing Christians have another lord...and it isn't Christ. They use the phrase, "my Lord & Savior", but they have no real love for Him as seen by their fruit (they willingly and unrepentantly reject His commands).

A Convenient "gospel"

Too many have faith, but it isn't the faith that God gives; rather, it is human faith in a false gospel. God-given faith is the "channel" for grace; without it, there's no fruit-bearing, no salvation.

He Who Is Spiritual

If you are a saved then you are spiritual (1Co 2:15). There's no such thing as a true believer who somehow isn't spiritual (e.g.: lacks the Spirit's personal ministry). Sinning grieves the Spirit (Eph 4:30), but we are no less spiritual as new creatures in Christ (2Co 5:17).

3 Elements of Faith

- Strong & Berkhof -

- Knowledge (notitia - the intellectual element) (Rom 6:3,6,9)
- Assent (assensus - the emotional element) (Rom 6:11)
- Trust (fiducia - the volitional (voluntary) element) (Rom 6:13)

John 5:38 [Amplified]

You do not have His word (Scripture) abiding in you [actually living in your hearts and minds], because you do not believe in Him whom He has sent.

John 5:39-40 [Amplified]

You search and keep on searching and examining the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and yet it is those [very Scriptures] that testify about Me; and still you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

John 10:27

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;"

Salvation Is Personal

Jesus Christ made salvation a PERSONAL issue, NOT a doctrinal one. Only FAITH from God (not human faith in doctrines) can save, it is a gift given when a person accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, nothing less.

Faith

Faith WILL produce works. It is the great litmus test for those who proclaim to be saved. It's impossible for a believer to NOT produce works. If a professor of faith never produces fruit, they are proven unsaved.

Faith and Works

- Paul stated that works are NOT the basis of receiving faith (Rom 3:28).
- James stated that saving faith WILL produce works (Jam 2:17).

These are two different arguments that ought never be mashed together. They are harmonious with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"preach and say"

both are in the present-active, meaning Jesus ALWAYS and HABITUALLY preached "Repent"! Repentance is certainly part of the Gospel message that we ought to preach and say!