

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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9/24/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 5

Outline:

Jude 3 [Amplified]

Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I was compelled to write to you [urgently] appealing that you fight strenuously for [the defense of] the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints [the faith that is the sum of Christian belief that was given verbally to believers].

Jam 4:14 [Amplified]

Yet you do not know [the least thing] about what may happen in your life tomorrow. [What is secure in your life?] You are merely a vapor [like a puff of smoke or a wisp of steam from a cooking pot] that is visible for a little while and then vanishes [into thin air].

Rom 6:2b

...How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

"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!

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.

Balance Statement

Heartfelt desire for godliness, by grace through faith, is fruit. Salvation and sanctification issues are heart issues. Works are never the basis for justification or what follows. If you're saved, you WILL have a heart that desires to do good, even though your flesh may get the better of you.

Balance Statement

The new creature cannot sin, is not able to sin, never desires to sin. "You" are to identify with it, not your flesh or its "love" of sin.

A True Believer Has Been Changed

Even though the flesh may get the better of them, they always "want to do good" (Rom 7:21). Their desire may be counted as good fruit since it is indeed a gift from God. God sees the heart.

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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.

"sins"

from harmartano - present-active-indicative means an ABSOLUTE LIFESTYLE

J. Vernon McGee

Now if you go off to the pigpen, that's the old nature, and if you stay in that pigpen, you never were God's child. If you can be happy in sin, my friend, then you are not God's child because God's children have the nature of their Father.

The Danger of Rational Thinking

We aren't to use human experience to interpret the Bible, we are to use the Bible to interpret our experiences.