

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

www.nccdighton.org

4/17/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
74

Salvation Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Salvation from sin

Man's Perspective ("tenses")

- Positional (from penalty of sin)
- Experiential (from power of sin)
- Ultimate (from presence of sin)

Sanctification Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Sanctified (set apart for Him)

Man's Perspective ("phases")

- Positional (imputed R+ / judicially)
- Experiential (imparted R+ / daily)
- Ultimate (completed R+ / eternally)

Do you ever wonder at someone else's faith?

We NEED Each Other!!!

1Co 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

Why?

The answer to the question, "Why am I not walking in a way that I know is pleasing to God?", is simple...it's a lack of faith. The remedy is oh-so simple: Faith comes from hearing (Ro 10:17) and God gives grace to the humble (Jas 4:6). It's not an intellectual/doctrinal issue, it's a spiritual/humility one.

MacDonald on Heb 11:6

No amount of good works can compensate for lack of faith. After all is said and done, when a man refuses to believe God, he is calling Him a liar. 'The one who does not believe God has made Him a liar' (1Jn 5:10), and how can God be pleased by people who call Him a liar.

MacDonald on Heb 11:6

Faith is the only thing that gives God His proper place, and puts man in his place

too.

C. H. Mackintosh on Heb 11:6

"[Faith] glorifies God exceedingly because it proves that we have more confidence in His eyesight than in our own."

MacDonald on Heb 11:6

Faith not only believes that God exists, but it also trusts Him to reward 'those who diligently seek Him'. There is nothing about God that makes it impossible for men to believe. The difficulty is with the human will.

Rev 3:18

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

Why?

The answer to the question, "Why am I not walking in a way that I know is pleasing to God?", is simple...it's a lack of faith. The remedy is oh-so simple: Faith comes from hearing (Ro 10:17) and God gives grace to the humble (Jas 4:6). It's not an intellectual/doctrinal issue, it's a spiritual/humility one.

"He humbled Himself"

It's impossible to fully understand the magnitude of this - truly - yet its place in scripture is reserved for all believers to absorb, to take on as the first step in walking by faith.

Overcoming Darkness

Jesus overcame darkness by abiding in the Light, exclusively. That's different than the person who splits their time/energy/attention between wrestling with darkness and abiding in the Light. Faith implies letting go.

Ecc 12:13-14 [Amplified]

When all has been heard, the end of the matter is: fear God [worship Him with awe-filled reverence, knowing that He is almighty God] and keep His commandments, for this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, every hidden and secret thing, whether it is good or evil.

Heb 3:13 [Amplified]

But continually encourage one another every day, as long as it is called "Today" [and there is an opportunity], so that none of you will be hardened [into settled rebellion] by the deceitfulness of sin [its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication].

Overcoming Darkness w/ Faith- /Grace-Oriented

God shows us grace every day by simply waking us up and giving us the breath of life...that is the "baseline" grace He's given even the unbelievers (through patience)...THAT is a test, in and of itself.

Ac 5:41-42

So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they

had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Life Is Meant to Be Experienced

Wisdom is gained through experience, not merely going to church. "Mission" implies the "field" (aka life). Consider our "Great Co-Mission (joint mission with God)".

Preparing for Experience (e.g., sanctification)

There's simply no substitute for experience. No matter how intelligent a person may be, their wares must be put to the test in order to precipitate true wisdom.

Creature Credit Antagonizes Sanctification

In any and every circumstance in life, the flesh will always seek a superior position to its peers. Everything's a competition, whether it's verbalized or not. That same mentality is brought into the faith, even. THIS is the reason for the artificial complexity! Sanctification is NOT a competition.

The Purpose of Artificial Complexity

Man WANTS sanctification to be complex since it affords the flesh a way to stratify itself. That's creature credit in a nutshell.

The Simplicity of Our Faith

There's only a small amount of central doctrine in scripture (e.g., the Gospel). The rest of it describes accounts of where those core doctrines are either being reaffirmed or defended against attacks.

Why Are We Still Here?

What does a "sanctified" believer "do"? If they are "being" and "living" righteously "by faith", what might their primary fruit be? The answer is simple - Mt 28:18-20.