

North Christian Church -

Pastor Ed Collins

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8/2/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part 111

Being Set Free

The Lord is changing our hearts; from obeying in obligation to obeying with joy. And it all comes from the source of His love.

The Power of Grace Through Faith

God knew from eternity past that Jesus would never fail as the blameless and spotless Lamb. Yet, scripture says He really WAS tempted. By grace through faith, Jesus was delivered, despite the potentiality of failure.

God Ensures Our Faith Never Fails

This is a real, ever-present reality, an activity. He ensures that His children never "lose faith". He not only saves us daily, but He actively ensures our faith never fails, through a variety of ways.

"Same Contract, Same Person, Same Outcome...But a Different Perspective!"

We heard of a big perspective change, from someone who first relied on a contract for security, but then learned to rely on the love motivation of the Benefactor for security.

"Same Contract,... But a Different Perspective!"

God says regarding eternal salvation: "I sent you this contract as an added sense of security...for YOU, not Me...for I know my own character and therefore do not need a contract to abide by. I love you, I'm your Father."

"Same Contract,... But a Different Perspective!"

As your relationship with the Person of God grows, your insecurities dwindle the more you realize His genuine love for you.

God's Perspective On Salvation

While the Bible speaks plainly about the integrity of God never failing us, we have an even greater appreciation knowing that God keeps us saved because He loves us.

Love Demonstrated

He DID it. He didn't just sign a contract and make a promise. He performed the action necessary to save mankind; thus the proof that LOVE is behind His promises.

Our Family In Heaven

Each member of the Godhead is involved in securing our salvation. God loves us and desires that we understand that salvation is a family matter, not a contractual one (though God certainly honors His contracts).

God Ensures Our Faith Never Fails

One of the most magnificent truths of all for believers is knowing that by the integrity and merits of Jesus Christ, we remain saved! How lovely to know that He won't let us go!!!

Peace is the result of true faith.

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)

God's Perspective

Your salvation and sanctification are the results of God's good work. He doesn't do these things because He has to; rather, He does them because He wants to. He loves you.

God's taking us to love!

The more we understand and believe His perfect love for us, the freer we are in living the gospel reality.

Living by Faith

Experiential righteousness, and sanctification, are largely brought to fruition in our souls by having faith in His love.

1Jo 3:1,4:9-10,16

Ps 36:7 NIV

How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Faith, Hope & Love

Faith is what gives us hope in things future... including faith in His love...and

because we possess that hope, life today is not just bearable, but peaceful. We must keep our eyes on our future deliverance.

Col 3:1 [NLT]

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand.

Sanctification Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Sanctified (set apart for Him)

Man's Perspective ("phases")

- Positional (imputed R+ / judicially)
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Baker's Dictionary

The Holy Spirit is the dynamic of sanctification. Jesus said that he had to go away so that the Holy Spirit would indwell believers (Jn 14:16-20). The "Holy" Spirit is so named not because he is more holy than the Father and the Son, but because his specific ministry vis-a-vis salvation is sanctification (Ro 15:16; 1Th 4:3-4; 2Th 2:13; 1Pe 1:2).

Sanctification Perspective

We can see the Spirit's direct ministry in our lives in our sanctification, and He promises to take us there; because He's already has taken us there!

The Dynamic Spiritual Life

God's love, through His Spirit, will see our sanctification to fruition. He guarantees it, as the Great Benefactor, the only One motivated by perfect love, and the only One with the perfect power to pull it all off!!