

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/9/16 - Guest Speaker: Evangelist Scott Grande -
Salvation/Deliverance Is From Our Creator/Redeemer -
Part 2

The Lord and His plan for saving, and delivering, mankind can be seen in His roles as Creator and Redeemer.

Acknowledging God as Creator, and then as Redeemer, is a wonderful analog of repentance and faith. Acts 20:21

Repentance & Faith

This is also how we live the spiritual life, after our day of salvation. This is how we are saved and sanctified in our daily lives, living in the Gospel reality, by repentance and faith towards our Creator and Redeemer.

The very act of living in the Gospel reality, that I am saved and already victorious in Christ; that is the very means of sanctification.

In conjunction with the Word of God, and dependent on how much attention we give it, we are more and more sanctified. We are able to live the Gospel reality more and more. Heb 4:12, Joh 17:17

John 17:17

"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

Life is temporary.

Life is temporary, we are all just passing through. When we forget that reality, we start living for ourselves, questioning why our own comforts aren't being met. We start focusing on our life as though it were our own. But when we remember life is temporary, we acknowledge the pure gift that "life" is, and we see the big picture, of which we are a very small part.

In Jam 4:13-15...

The first guy left Someone out. Are you done with that guy?

The second guy acknowledged God when making plans.

And in between is the vapor that is your life. Which guy will you be before you 'vanish away'?

Don't have expectations in this world. Expectations, if you think about, really come from arrogance (as though we deserve anything good at all).

We can take advantage of today and live it for Him, as long as it is today, because it may be our last, and we will be face to face with the Lord very soon,

each and every one of us.

You are a child of God, and you do not belong here, not for long. So live the Gospel reality to which you were called, live saved and victorious, do good to all men, and swing freely in the game of life, one day at a time. You are already victorious, being in Christ! Live like it!

Salvation is the story of the Creator and Redeemer, and what He's done for us sinners.

Salvation is not one memorized scripture, or sentence. It's a conversation, a story to be told. (remember Stephen in Acts 7?)

Understanding God as your Creator can do many things, before and after your day of salvation. It leads to a proper perspective of fear of God, as He is sovereign. As King of the universe He can do as He pleases, and that should give every man pause, that he is not in control of his life, whatsoever.

Living in the Gospel reality, being saved every day, includes this attitude of repentance and humility. Being sanctified includes this as well. In fact, they are unified.

One of the little religions that fear of God can help cast out for us is sexual idolatry. We should not be foolish and think there are not consequences for rejecting God in this matter. 1Th 4:1-8

1 Thess 4:6 NIV

"and that in this matter (sexual immorality) no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you."

God as our Father loves us so much, and He has great, noble plans for his children. But when we repeatedly violate His noble plans, He will discipline us when needed, to help us get out of our own way, so we don't just waste our life away.

Pastor Collins

God is not a puppet. You're not "entitled" to anything!

YOU ARE HERE FOR GOD, NOT FOR YOURSELF.

We need to fear God properly, and realize all blessings He gives us are from Him, and FOR HIM! Col 1:16, 1Co 8:6

FOR HIM

All good things the Father gives us are ultimately to show Satan and the fallen angels how gracious our God is to us sinners, and how God can turn sinners into sanctified creatures who can live sanctified lives.