North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/11/16 - Guest Speaker: Evangelist Scott Grande - Salvation/Deliverance Is From Our Creator/Redeemer - Part 3

Salvation and deliverance can only come from the Lord, and His roles as Creator and Redeemer represent who He must be acknowledged as, for any person to receive salvation and deliverance. Acts 20:21

Acts 20:21 AMP

But constantly and earnestly I bore testimony both to Jews and Greeks, urging them to turn in repentance [that is due] to God and to have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ [that is due Him].

The righteous man shall live by faith in the Gospel, and in the promises of God related to the Gospel, as he travels the road of sanctification.

As we try to cast our little religions out from our souls, the reminder of our Sovereign Creator, and a healthy fear of Him, is often the only thing that can help us.

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!

Following Idols

If we truly fear God and His power, we won't go there. Fear of God is vital to denying ungodliness, and living in humility.

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.

The more we accept the Lord's sovereignty and omnipotence, the more we will remember our place, and that is extremely valuable in living a life of humility, and

ultimately true freedom.

Knowing that life is so temporary, that our life rests in His hands alone, we will develop a proper fear of the Lord, which will help save us every day, including saving us from ourselves.

We need to have a growing realization throughout our whole lives of Him as Lord, and Master, and Creator and King. This is part of being set apart to a life of righteousness.

Jer 31:33c

"I will be their God."

Humility from recognizing God's Sovereignty

As you look into the sky on a clear, starry night, step back and fathom that our God and Creator spread out the infinite universe with His fingers, Isa 40:12, AFTER He created it all by just saying a word, Gen 1, Psa 33:6,9, 148:5. Our God and Creator wants to save us from sin, and deliver us to righteousness. In fact, that's what Christ did for us on the cross. He died for sin, and rose for righteousness! Rom 4:25

We are saved from sin, and delivered to righteousness. We've been saved and sanctified, as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. And He continues to perform a good work in those who believe.

If one doesn't even believe in or acknowledge God as his Creator, there is nowhere they can go. Humility is not there, there is no good soil in which the fruit of righteousness can grow.

We think because there is 'no fear in love', 1Jo 4:18, we should not fear God. But 'no fear in love' refers to having no fear in this world, because you know you are perfectly loved by God.

Adam Clarke on Luke 12:5

"[Fear him] Even the friends of God are commanded to fear God, as a being who has authority to send both body and soul into hell. Therefore it is proper even for the most holy persons to maintain a fear of God, as the punisher of all unrighteousness. A man has but one life to lose, and one soul to save; and it is madness to sacrifice the salvation of the soul to the preservation of the life."

John Calvin on Luke 12:5

"Christ must be viewed as saying, that when we give way to the dread of men, we pay no respect to God; and that if on the contrary we fear God, we have an easy victory in our hands, so that no efforts of men will draw us aside from our duty."

But don't forget the One you serve! Don't forget His power and authority! That's reality will keep us humble, and give us courage to serve Him without hesitation, even in the face of the threats of man.

"You only come this way once." We have only one life to live, so what will we make of the rest of our days?

We are to have fear for Christ, and also fear God. Eph 5:21, Ecc 12:13

The pattern remains...

Fear God, and live. Fear your Creator, and turn to your Redeemer for true life. Repent and believe. Confess and press on. We are saved from sin, and delivered to righteousness our whole lives, when we stay living in the Gospel reality.