

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/16/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
49

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)

Grace

You were PREDESTINED to suffer for Christ's sake.

Predestined to Suffer

Jesus' suffering was a blessing to Him ("*who for the joy set before Him endured the Cross*" - **Heb 12:2**). We believers are called the same way, to suffer for Christ's sake (e.g.: for the Gospel)(*"For to you it has been granted [charizomai - suffering is a grace gift] for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake"* - **Php 1:29**).

Grace

You were PREDESTINED to prosper for Christ's sake, only the prosperity emphasized in the Bible is eternally weighted (**Pr 16:11; Jn 4:36-38; Ro 6:20-22; 1Ti 6:6-21; Rev 3:18-21**).

Discovering Wealth

Since we live in a "prosperous" nation AND the Word of God says He will prosper us, shouldn't EVERY Christian take the time to see if their definition of "prosperity" matches up with God's???

Prosperity Testing

How will you *"do business"* with God's grace? Will you keep the "minas" for yourself, as if you've earned them (**1Co 4:7**), or will you *"regard one another as more important than yourselves"* (**Php 2:3-4**)?

"regard one another as more important than yourselves"

Describes what true humility looks like (**Rom 12:10; Gal 5:13; Eph 5:21; 1Pe 5:5**).

Doing TLJC's Business, Not Yours

Grace is love. To *"do business"* with His currency (grace) is to love and lay down our lives for others. That's scripture, my friends - there's no escaping Truth - there's no excuse for the self-absorbed.

Entitlement Issues

You are not "entitled" to a prosperous life by world standards. When you were saved, as an adopted child, you were en-titled (in + title) to the wisdom in the Word regarding true prosperity.

"wisdom and knowledge and joy"

Who does God give these most precious divine prosperity gifts to? - Answer: *"to a person who is good in His sight."*

"the task of gathering and collecting"

Who does God curse with the loss of worldly prosperity? - Answer: *"to the [habitual] sinner."*

Divine Wisdom Regarding Prosperity

In order to possess true wisdom regarding prosperity, you MUST first reconcile your life with the likes of **Ecc 2, 5; Ac 20:35; 1Co 4:7; Php 2:3-4**; and especially **1Co 2:16!**

Prosperity Always Has CONTEXT!

The *"prosperity"* and *"abundance"* that Paul speaks of in **Php 4:12** must be understood in context. Paul is not implying he ever strove for abundance, rather when he did possess it, this same man would give it away as a way of gracing out others (**2Co 8:7-15; 9:5-15**).

Wisdom

The more spiritually mature you are, the more likely you are to *"do business"* for Christ, not just in word, but in deed (**1Jn 3:18**). This implies grace, which means giving, for that is the greater blessing, after all (**Ac 20:35**). The less mature don't understand this; rather, they are stuck living for self in the world's economy (currency = creature credit).

***"proper clothing"* (during worship service)**

"Modestly" (from *aidos*) means avoiding anything that would cause shame.

"Discreetly" (from *sophrosune*) means a woman is to be moderate in her dress.

McDonald on *"discreetly"* (1Ti 2:9)

"On the one hand she will not seek to attract attention to herself by expensive, conspicuous fashions. These might tend to provoke admiration or even jealousy

from those who should be worshipping God. On the other hand, she should avoid attracting attention to herself by wearing clothes that are drab...the scriptures seem to teach a moderate, middle-of-the-road policy in regard to clothing."

"but rather"

Literally means "instead of", which implies no coexistence of these things. In other words, worshipping women cannot propose to "offset" their lack of modesty and discretion by "doing good". One supplants the other in the heart of the humble woman.

"making a claim to godliness"

It is "*proper*" (from *prepo* = becoming, befitting) for a godly woman to do "*good works*" by dressing moderately to facilitate fellowship and be an example to others to do the same. Contrarily, a woman who doesn't do such good works has no claim to godliness.

Prosperity Testing

Prosperity is a multi-faceted test that includes not just one's own struggle with lusting it, but also one's consideration of those without it and the possibility of making them stumble.