

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/23/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part  
52

## **Lk 12:15 [NLT]**

*Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."*

## **Lk 12:19-21 [NLT]**

*And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!" But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."*

## **Mt 6:25-26 [Message]**

*"If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don't fuss about what's on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body."*

## **Mt 6:25-26 [Message]**

*"Look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, careless in the care of God. And you count far more to him than birds."*

## **First Things First**

If you try to understand Christ's heart through a worldly lens, you will remain confused your whole life. The Word is meant to provide you with divine vision. AFTER your "eye is clear" (Lk 11:34), divine perspective is possible.

## **Appropriating Grace**

By definition, if we can rightly say that we are prosperous in any way, we must consider WHY He has ordained it and WHAT we are to do with this reality.

## **Divine Wisdom Regarding Prosperity**

False doctrines always implode upon themselves eventually. Under the weight of enough scripture and humility, our religions always fail, giving way to the Light of life.

## **Consider the following:**

- the toddler who has no concept of wealth has no bondage to it

- the world taught you how to idolize (self and others and wealth, even)
- the world taught you to esteem those with worldly riches
- the world system persists

### **God's Economy**

Prosperity has purpose. Grace is given to glorify God. It's God's economy in view when we realize that we receive from others and in turn give to others (who receive from us...and so on).

### **What Can We Give?**

- Of Person (who we are): time, talent, energy, attention
- Of Possession (things we own): money, property, stuff

### **Christ's Perspective (ref: 1Co 2:16)**

Christ unabashedly and unequivocally denounced the contemporary "Prosperity Gospel" (eg: Lk 9:57-62).

### **Are We to Pity Jesus (Lk 9:58)?**

May it never be! One commentator wrote: "He does not need your pity. Pity yourself rather if you have a home that holds you back when Christ wants you out upon the high places of the world."

### **Courage Is Faith**

Are you going to put off addressing the obvious for another day?...or are you willing to address the problem that only seems to be visible when the Word speaks to your heart?...or are you going to continue swimming in the world's system of thinking, being double-minded?

### **Mt 6:19-21 [Message]**

*"Don't hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or-worse!-stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it's safe from moth and rust and burglars. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being."*

### **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)

### **Salvation Perspective**

Salvation is living in the Gospel reality.

### **Perseverance of the Saints**

"From faith to faith" expresses that true faith is not a single event, but a way of life - it endures. In this sense, the "righteousness from God" that "is revealed" is unique to true believers only, for they "live by faith"!

### **Counterfeit Salvation**

All religions come back to one basic, satanic strategy - that is that the creature

saves himself, sanctifies himself, for himself, and by himself! (cp Jn 17:15-19)

### **Jn 17:17-19 [Amplified]**

*Sanctify them in the truth [set them apart for Your purposes, make them holy]; Your word is truth. Just as You commissioned and sent Me into the world, I also have commissioned and sent them (believers) into the world. For their sake I sanctify Myself [to do Your will], so that they also may be sanctified [set apart, dedicated, made holy] in [Your] truth.*

### **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)

### **ONLY God Can Sanctify Man!**

If you lose sight of the Gospel, you will doubt this basic truth and adopt a form of self-sanctification eventually.

### **Faith and Righteousness**

What Paul is getting at in Ro 1:17 when he says "this righteousness that we've received from God" is "revealed" is that it is revealed in such a way that faith is the channel for grace that sanctifies (at salvation and beyond - aka "from faith to faith").

### **Our Deliverer**

God saves (delivers) us at every phase of sanctification. He gives us faith through which His grace is poured out. A believer "lives by faith".

### **Sanctify / Sanctification**

Used 106 times in the OT and 31 times in the NT. In general, it refers to being set apart or the state of being so. It typically relates to matters of position and relationship; for example, regarding a person's standing with God.

### **Holy / Holiness**

Used ~400 times in the OT and 12 times in the NT, referring to believers. Refers to being separated from that which is unholy. Christ was holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners; thus He was sanctified. Except for God, sinlessness is not necessarily implied, as even the holiest of priests in the OT were sinners.

**Both sanctified and holy are context sensitive in the Bible.**

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