

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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1/5/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
35

Romans 1

- v1-17: the glory of salvation and spiritual life
- v18-32: the tragedy of unbelief and spiritual death

God's Sovereignty

God's creatures are accountable to Him. That is a universal fact, whether or not His creatures agree (confess) with Him or not! (Ps 1; Jas 4:12; cp 2Sa 24:12)

The Whole Gospel

The "first part" of the "good news" is that we ARE held accountable to a God of perfect integrity!

You Are Redeemed

You have been purchased with a price. Your life is your Redeemer's! (1Co 6:19-20; 1Pe 1:17-19)

Conclusion

If your life is His life, then it's His life to sanctify, not yours!

Victory In Jesus!

The more of the big-picture you "see", the more free you will be!

1Jn 5:1 [Amplified]

Everyone who believes [with a deep, abiding trust in the fact] that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed) is born of God [that is, reborn from above-spiritually transformed, renewed, and set apart for His purpose], and everyone who loves the Father also loves the child born of Him.

1Jn 5:2 [Amplified]

By this we know [without any doubt] that we love the children of God: [expressing that love] when we love God and obey His commandments.

1Jn 5:3 [Amplified]

For the [true] love of God is this: that we habitually keep His commandments and remain focused on His precepts. And His commandments and His precepts are not difficult [to obey].

1Jn 5:4 [Amplified]

For everyone born of God is victorious and overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered and overcome the world-our [continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God].

Victory In Jesus!

The more of the big-picture you "see", the more free you will be!

The Righteous Live By Faith

Faith overcomes the world (1Jn 5:4). The world is wrought with sin and evil (Jn 3:19-21). However, Light always overcomes darkness.

The Counterfeit Shepherd

Satan's desire is to "shepherd" you away from living in the freedom that Christ set you free to live in; to set up a counterfeit spiritual life after salvation; to propagate a system of self-sanctification.

1Jn 5:21

Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

Normal, Really???

Be careful what you accept into your soul as "normal" or acceptable. What those closest to you might be trying to pawn off as "ok" may quite possibly be heinous to God. (2Co 11:13-15)

2Co 11:13 [Message]

They're a sorry bunch-pseudo-apostles, lying preachers, crooked workers-posing as Christ's agents but sham to the core. And no wonder!

2Co 11:14 [Message]

Satan does it all the time, dressing up as a beautiful angel of light. So it shouldn't surprise us when his servants masquerade as servants of God.

2Co 11:15 [Message]

But they're not getting by with anything. They'll pay for it in the end.

Counterfeit Shepherds

Satan has counterfeit shepherds planted throughout the world...and they do his bidding within the perceived sanctity of Christianity...from behind pulpits, even! (ala 2Ti 3:6-7)

Sanctification

Sanctification is a fundamental facet of the Gospel. We don't just live in the past, simply pointing to our positional sanctification, we live in the now, obeying such that He can sanctify us experientially. (Php 2:12-13)

"work out your salvation"

Paul is speaking to believers; refers to your deliverance, your sanctification; obedience is being amplified here (the HS's ministry implied, of course)

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.