

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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1/10/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
37

"Big-Picture" Salvation

God saves sinners. He saved YOU! He saves us every single day of our lives (from our enemies, from the influences of spiritual death, sin, and evil). Salvation is an activity, not merely a split moment in time. Salvation is a plan that we witness in time.

MacArthur on Is 61:10

"Here is the OT picture of imputed righteousness, the essential heart of the New Covenant. When a penitent sinner recognizes he can't achieve his own righteousness by works, and repents and calls on the mercy of God, the Lord covers him with His own divine righteousness by grace through his faith."

Salvation

God is not only righteous in justifying man based on the work of the Cross, but the imputed righteousness, itself (that which a believer has received), creates in man the substance for a new way of life.

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"!

Saving Faith

You were saved by grace through faith (positionally) and you are saved by grace through faith (experientially). It is "by faith" that the righteous man lives!

What Gives???

What does the miserable believer say to themselves when they read the likes of 1Th 5:16-18?

Jas 1:2-3 [Amplified]

Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace].

Jas 1:4 [Amplified]

And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.

Deliverance Means Being Saved Daily

Perspective is often the only relief a believer has available to them (the Word gives us perspective and the Spirit ensures us it is truth).

1Pe 4:12 [Amplified]

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal which is taking place to test you [that is, to test the quality of your faith], as though something strange or unusual were happening to you.

1Pe 4:13 [Amplified]

But insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, keep on rejoicing, so that when His glory [filled with His radiance and splendor] is revealed, you may rejoice with great joy.

1Pe 4:14 [Amplified]

If you are insulted and reviled for [bearing] the name of Christ, you are blessed [happy, with life-joy and comfort in God's salvation regardless of your circumstances], because the Spirit of glory and of God is resting on you [and indwelling you-He whom they curse, you glorify].

1Pe 4:19 [Amplified]

Therefore, those who are ill-treated and suffer in accordance with the will of God must [continue to] do right and commit their souls [for safe-keeping] to the faithful Creator.

"entrust"

from paratithemi - is a banking term that means to 'deposit for safe keeping'; refers to a complete surrender of one's soul to God, Who is faithful (1Co 1:9)

Member of NCC

If a person truly desires to do something, they will - it doesn't matter what time it is, how cold it is, how tired they are, etc....if they want to do it more than they want to execute any of their other options. Priorities.

Member of NCC

I am not judging anyone, including myself...it is just fact. If you WANT to do it, you WILL...and the "when" you do it is all a function of your priorities.

Lk 12:34

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

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Sowing Doubt and Mistrust

Satan repeats lies over and over again until we subtly begin accepting the lies as truth! Beware! (Is 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil...).

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)

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.

ONLY through faith can righteousness be imputed by grace!

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".

J. Vernon McGee on "from faith to faith"

"From faith to faith" simply means out of faith into faith. God saves you by faith, you live by faith, you die by faith, and you'll be in Heaven by faith."

J. Vernon McGee on "from faith to faith"

"When I was born, my mother said the doctor lifted me up by my heels, gave me a whack, and I let out a cry that could be heard on all four borders of that great state."

J. Vernon McGee on "from faith to faith"

"I was born into a world of atmosphere and that whack started me breathing. From that do to this I have been breathing atmosphere. From air to air, from oxygen to oxygen."

J. Vernon McGee on "from faith to faith"

"Much later, in the state of Oklahoma, I was born again. I was saved by faith, and from that time on it has been by faith - from faith to faith."

To Live By Faith Is to Be Righteous

The righteousness that we receive from God is revealed as He sanctifies us "from faith to faith".