

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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1/21/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part  
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## **A Word to the Wise**

There are multiple dimensions to salvation and sanctification, which is why seeking a unidimensional definition introduces doctrinal errors.

### **1Co 2:6 [Amplified]**

*Yet we do speak wisdom among those spiritually mature [believers who have teachable hearts and a greater understanding]; but [it is a higher] wisdom not [the wisdom] of this present age nor of the rulers and leaders of this age, who are passing away;*

### **1Co 2:7-8 [Amplified]**

*Yet but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom once hidden [from man, but now revealed to us by God, that wisdom] which God predestined before the ages to our glory [to lift us into the glory of His presence]. None of the rulers of this age recognized and understood this wisdom; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;*

### **"Your purpose predestined"**

predestination always carries with it the purpose of God; His will is intrinsically represented in every fact, every blessing, every grace gift (even suffering and discipline).

\*\*\* Reward-Retribution-1 diagram \*\*\*

\*\*\* Reward-Retribution-2 diagram \*\*\*

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## **Grace**

You were PREDESTINED to suffer for Christ's sake!

### **"granted"**

from charizomai - [charis means grace]; in context in Php 1:29, it refers to the fact that suffering is a grace gift! It follows, then, that if you suffer (undeservedly),

then you are actually being blessed out!

### **Grace**

The best decisions are made when we take the time to evaluate the context of our circumstances. This is analogous to lacking wisdom and insight and praying to God for directions on what to do (or not do) next.

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### **Self-Inflicted Wounds**

If you are suffering due to past mistakes, God's grace is that you "feel" the weight of it so that He can teach you something. His grace is in delivering you from it spiritually, but He may not relieve you of the consequences.

**Grace must be appropriated correctly in your soul.**

### **Suffering and Grace**

You'll never fully understand God's will if you refuse His conviction. You must confess the truth about yourself. If you lack that wisdom (e.g.: introspection), then go directly to Him in prayer, and STAY HUMBLE!!! (Jas 1:5)

### **Suffering and Grace**

Pray. Pray. Pray! If you lack the wisdom to understand the nature of your suffering, then PRAY! Even if you're mistaken for a time (we all are), remember the Spirit intercedes for you in prayer (Ro 8:26-27).

**Grace is illumined with confession and prayer.**

### **Jas 4:6 [Amplified]**

*But He gives us more and more grace [through the power of the Holy Spirit to defy sin and live an obedient life that reflects both our faith and our gratitude for our salvation]. Therefore, it says, "God is opposed to the proud and haughty, but [continually] gives [the gift of] grace to the humble [who turn away from self-righteousness]."*

### **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)

### **Is 61:10**

*I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, [re: life] He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

### **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"!