North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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6/2/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part 94

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)

Your Experiential Sanctification

God looks forward to sanctifying YOU! He's going to put YOU in unique situations where only YOU can bring glory to Him!

Sanctification Perspectives

When love is spurned, it gives even more (e.g., 2Co 12:15). Is there anything more persistent than God's love??? "But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Co 13:13). if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing" (1Co 13:2b).

Binding Faith

Everyone has faith in something, but unless love binds that faith to serving others, it is worthless.

"may it not be counted against them"

This is a type of Jesus' words on the Cross, as He bore the ultimate suffering for others and they scorned Him for it. But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Lk 23:34).

"the Lord stood with me"

Paul's ultimate security was in Christ. He was matured to the point of peace in simply knowing that he had fulfilled his mission, and that the Lord never forsook him (Heb 13:5).

"all things to all men"

Paul endured whatever he needed to so that the Gospel might be preached. God used a multifaceted individual to reveal to His children what grace-orientation and humility looked like. He wasn't perfect (Php 3:12), but he was effective.

A Time For Everything

Each and every circumstance requires a unique evaluation. Discernment is a function of wisdom given by God.

A Time For Everything

Sometimes a teacher must use fleshly arguments in order to contend with opposing, fleshly thinking, since in order to "pluck" a person from ungodliness, the teacher must "reach into the fire". As much as it may be distasteful to the teacher and offensive to the student, he realizes that he must do that thing to deliver (Gal 4:19) his disciple. (e.g., 2Co 11)

A Time For Everything

There comes a time that a person must completely bind themselves to the Lord; and in doing so, in humility, they are binding themselves to the authority in their lives.

Authority-Orientation Over Self

God has given authority to each of us to govern our own souls. The new creature is divinely oriented, seeking to obey God's commands; whereas the flesh is antagonistic. The godly chain-of-command is through the new creature and upwards (submission to others with delegated authority).

Authority-Orientation

One of the most difficult things to do in the spiritual life is to persist "despite" your own failures/weaknesses. The world will try to undermine the authority-orientation of the first divinely ordained institution (authority over one's own soul). Satan wants you to quit, to breech God's authority when He says, "press on!"

Breeching Authority-Orientation

If you dismiss God's command to persevere, then you are challenging the divinely delegated chain-of-command in your own soul. "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love" (1Co 16:13-14).

Eph 6:1

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

- Col 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- 1Pe 3:1 In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,

Heb 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

Col 3:22

Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

The Serpent's Tongue

Satan, the serpent of old, and his agents, always attack the authority that God has delegated. They do so like lawyers do - quoting scripture, asking bad questions, and using misdirection. Even believers can speak like the serpent, against authority (Gen 3:1-7; Mt 4:1-11; 9:10-13; 12:9-14; 13:53-58; 16:1-4, 17-23, etc...)

"Get behind Me, Satan!"

After posturing Peter as a "chip off the old block (Rock)", Jesus harshly chastised him for challenging His words, calling him a "stumbling block". Anyone looking to thwart His work is acting as Satan's mouthpiece, even someone as earnest as Peter.

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