

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

www.nccdighton.org

6/26/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
97

Read Your Bibles!!!

Read for context. Observe the people. Accept clearly stated theology as "gold refined by fire" (Rev 3:18) and keep away from hyper-doctrinalization. Pray for faith, for God "gives grace to the humble" (Jas 4:6).

Perspective

God Is Light (1Jo 1:5). God is Unity (One - Jas 2:19). We often learn about God by beginning with His attributes and then pointing back to "Him". However, in the end, what He wants us to realize is that these attributes are the results of the eternal God being who He is, intrinsically Light. We do not "construct" God out of a list of attributes (ala existentialism) any more than the human eye can construct white light out of a rainbow.

Light and Synchronicity

Mercy is one facet of God's Light. If we apply the "prism" of systematic theology, we might "see" mercy as a particular "wavelength/color" of light, which is fine for study purposes, but we ought never divorce it from the Unity of the Light, Himself, or His other, infinite attributes.

Making Room For Darkness

If we put God in a box, we have made those areas in our lives where God has been "boxed out" areas of darkness. It is then that we begin wrestling with darkness out of perceived human necessity. Contrarily, if we have the fullness of Light, we do not wrestle with darkness.

"Knowing" is not "living" (eg. Jas 2:19)

Arrogant people lack faith in God.

"Seeing It All As Truth In the Light

Throwing all our anxieties on Him "works" because by faith we say, "Well, we've given it over to Him, and He'll take it from here!" If we wrestle with it with our own flesh (because we are arrogant), we don't have the promises of deliverance; rather, we have darkness to strive against (something we cannot overcome on our own).

God Demands Our Humility

Arrogance cannot deliver you, only God can, leaving you with a single option - humility. A saved/delivered person is an obedient one. An obedient person enjoys God's peace in time, a disobedient one doesn't.

Sanctification

Living the spiritual life, in Christ, in the new creature, is more like avoiding being dragged off of the victor's stand than trying to climb up.