

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 29

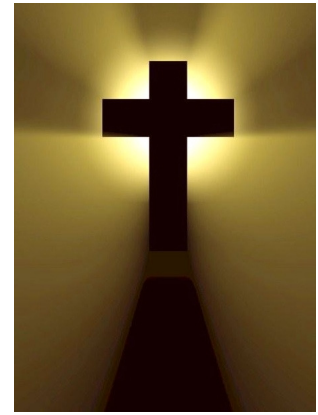
The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
Jesus did it all for all Mankind!



Thursday, March 10, 2011

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."* *(John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



Lesson

Before our conference we had been studying the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. He is the third Member of the Trinity...God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Remember you should be Holy Spirit experts by now, right? Well we're done with the subject of the part of the Holy Spirit's ministry of common and efficacious grace and today I want to give you some basic truths about salvation but looking at it with respect to the work of another Person, and that is the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ when He died on the cross for all mankind.



Our main subject today will be a review of what it means to be saved, which will focus on unbelievers and all the work God accomplished through Jesus. Jesus Christ sacrificed His entire life to save mankind by His spiritual death on the cross as a substitute for all sinners...that's the entire fallen human race. He lived to die for us.

So let's start our little review with a few very important facts about unbelievers. You remember that unbelievers cannot understand the Word of God, right? They can read the Bible and all its verses until their "blue in the face" but they will never understand them. Why? Because the Bible must be learned in the Spirit and they don't have the Spirit, do they? No they do not.



The Holy Spirit is the one who teaches us all things spiritual. Well this is true for the unbeliever as well as the believer. We all need the Holy Spirit and the only thing the unbeliever can understand through God the Holy Spirit while he is an unbeliever is the Gospel of Jesus. Verses like **John 3:16**, **Eph 2:8-9**, and **Acts 16:31** can be understood. So this in review again is all related to our subject of the ministry of God the Holy Spirit in common and efficacious grace. In common grace the Holy Spirit makes the unbeliever hear and understand the Gospel message of faith alone in Christ alone for salvation...Heaven...so that the unbeliever can make a decision to believe in Jesus or not believe in Him. Then if the spiritually dead person believes, the Holy Spirit takes the faith or "yes" of a spiritually dead person or unbeliever and makes the unbeliever's little "yes" of faith effective for salvation. The Holy Spirit makes it real and gives the new believer lots of gifts right then and there. God the Holy Spirit supplies us with all the benefits of the work done by our Lord and Savior on the cross on behalf of the whole human race to the individual who believes in Jesus for salvation. These are enormous gifts, kids. This is great news for us. This is the GRACE of GOD. He does everything for us and we get the rewards. You can only receive them as gifts from God." That's what grace is all about.



Jesus Christ faced the flames of the judgment of God on sin at the cross...SO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO!!! Christ died for sinners. We are all sinners. All of you believe in Jesus because He died for you...took your place on the cross and paid the penalty so you don't have to suffer for all of eternity in the Lake of Fire. Now you are His children and you have all the wonderful benefits that He has including the very thing that gets you into Heaven...HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (+R).

Make no mistake, there are still a lot of people who are unbelievers and are spiritually dead, separated from God, condemned, with no perfect righteousness (+R), with a very bad sin nature that makes them slaves to sin, and one day they will be judged for rejecting Jesus as their Savior. It is the same judgment that has fallen upon the ruler of this world...Satan. It is the Lake of Fire...eternity without God. Don't you think we should do our part in bringing the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus to them? Yes, we should. We don't want this terrible suffering for anyone.



Work it back. When we give the Gospel to unbelievers, it is very effective if you work it backwards with the three very important things or issues we talked about in a lesson no so long ago from a passage in **John 16:8-11**...Judgment...Righteousness...and Sin.

Judgment: because Satan has been judged and all unbelievers will suffer the same judgment. That means because we are all born condemned from Adam's sin, we can then as unbelievers be delivered from this judgment and Satan's kingdom to Christ's kingdom of light and Truth. No unbeliever has to remain condemned in Satan's kingdom of darkness. Judgment or condemnation means they qualify for salvation or can be saved and that they need the Savior...Jesus.

Righteousness: means that the only Perfect One...the Savior...has come to earth so He can bring to all mankind salvation. Jesus accomplished it for us on the cross and is now at the Right Hand of the Father. The Savior has been provided for you. He has done all the work and He is Jesus Christ the only Righteous One. He offers you a perfect standing before God if you believe in Him.

Sin: because we were condemned by Adam's sin NOT our personal sins. Our personal sins were put aside or saved for Jesus to suffer for on the cross where they were judged by God the Father and for which Jesus suffered terribly as if He went through the actual flames we would have suffered in the Lake of Fire. Thank you, Jesus.



SO THEN...

"How can we be saved?" By believing in God's only Son, Jesus Christ, His work on the Cross, and that He rose alive again after He died. The ONLY sin that keeps anyone on the path to judgment and away from perfect righteousness (+R) which is what gets us into Heaven is the sin of unbelief...NOT believing in Jesus!!

So everyone has a choice. They can believe or trust in Jesus, be saved, get a double portion of righteousness (+R) from Jesus and God the Father, eternal life...they live with God forever in a perfect place called Heaven.





OR they can refuse to believe and hang on to their idea that "being good" gets you into Heaven. Isaiah the prophet called "being good" or "human good," filthy rags. Trying to do will keep them in sin, spiritual death, and condemned under the power of Satan. You know where that leads them: to judgment and the sentence to the Lake of Fire after physical death.



I know what all of you chose...JESUS! Aren't you happy about that? I am. Jesus did it all for mankind because He loves us. The work is finished. We are on our way to heaven when we die. That's awesome and we can never lose our salvation...this great gift from God. The Holy Spirit sealed us in Jesus forever by placing us in union with Him at the moment we believed in Jesus and trusted His work on the Cross. That's why we get His righteousness (+R) and the Father's! That's our ticket into Heaven.



1 Cor 1:18 "For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

Next time we meet again at the cross of Jesus

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on Thursday, October 24, 2010
Lighthouse Bible Church

