

# THAT THE WORLD THROUGH HIM MIGHT BE SAVED JOHN 3:14-21

Text: John 3:17

## **John 3:17**

<sup>17</sup>For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Introduction:

The very heart and core of the Word of God is Salvation from the present condemnation and the eternal damnation of sin.

The theme unfolds itself in the Old Testament by types, shadows, and prophetic words and is consummated in the New Testament in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Apart from the saving grace of God man stands condemned before God.

What is needed today is a plain and simple presentation of the Gospel so that lost mankind can hear the message, believe it and be saved.

Notice:

# 1. SALVATION IS BUILT ON FACT AND NOT ON FEELING

## 1 John 5:9-13

<sup>9</sup> If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. <sup>10</sup> He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. <sup>11</sup> And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup> He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. <sup>13</sup> These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Note:

A. Salvation Is a Fact Assured By the Word of God (vs. 13)

Notice John said, "...that ye may know that ye have eternal life..."

Who was he writing to?

It says— "...you that believe on the name of the Son of God..." Salvation depends upon our trust in the Lord not upon the uncertainty of our feelings.

Feelings change but facts do not change! The Word of God gives us assurance.

How does the Word give us assurance?

- The Word Assures Us of Everlasting Life

**John 5:24**

<sup>24</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Death is the country where every Christless soul lives. The man who knows not God lives a dying life, or a living death; but he who believes in the Son of God passes over from the empire of death, to the empire of life.

Have you ever thought that God's great gift to us is time--time forever? When we are forgiven of our sin and cleansed from our guilt on the basis of Christ's death for us--Christ's paying our penalty--we are given everlasting life--a gift of time--a fantastic gift of time together with Him, and with all those who have come into the family of the living God.

- The Word Assures Us of Heavenly Family

**John 1:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> He came unto his own, and his own received him not. <sup>12</sup> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

**1 John 3:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us,

that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

Those who accept Jesus Christ, as he is offered to them in the Gospel, have, through his blood, a right to this sonship; for by that sacrifice this blessing was purchased; and the fullest promises of God confirm it to all who believe.

- The Word Assures Us of Eternal Life as a Gift From God

When a person receives Jesus Christ as their Saviour they are assured by the Word of God that they have eternal life.

**Romans 6:23**

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The gift that God bestows is eternal life. He bestows no less upon any of His people; and it is the greatest gift that can be bestowed.

Notice not only “Salvation Is a Fact Assured By the Word of God” but also:

## B. Salvation Is a Fact Affirmed By the Witness of the Spirit

One of the facets of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to regenerate.

Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:5-8

### **John 3:5-8**

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. <sup>8</sup> The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

The wind blows in a variety of directions-we hear its sound, perceive its operation in the motion of the trees, etc., and feel it on ourselves-but we cannot discern the air itself; we only know that it exists by the effects which it produces: so is everyone who is born of the Spirit: the effects are as discernible and as sensible as those of the wind; but itself we cannot see.

But he who is born of God knows that he is thus born: the Spirit itself, the grand agent in this new birth, beareth witness with his spirit, that he is born of God... for, he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

Consider the importance of ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Christian life:

- The Believer Is Led By the Spirit

**Romans 8:14**

<sup>14</sup> For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

The sons of God are led by the Spirit of God.

We should never overlook the importance of the Spirit's leadership in our lives!

Being led by the Spirit means that our thoughts, words, and actions are to be guided by the Spirit.

Can you say that is true of your life today?

Are you following the leadership of the Spirit in all things?

The Spirit shows us the danger of sin and gives us the moral strength to overcome temptation. He shows us the will of God and gives us the power to accomplish God's will.

- The Believer Is Sealed By the Spirit

**Ephesians 4:30**

<sup>30</sup> And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

The Holy Spirit in the soul of a believer is God's seal, set on his heart to testify that he is God's property, and that he should be wholly employed in God's service.

Illustration:

When a piece of registered mail is mailed from a post office, it is sealed until delivered. Actually, only two persons can open registered mail - the sender (if it is returned to him) and the designated recipient.

To draw a parallel for believers, God is the One who sends us on our way to Heaven, and God in Heaven is the recipient on our arrival.

As with registered mail, only God can break the seal of our redemption. However, he had promised not to do so - and the guarantee of that promise is the presence of the Holy Spirit, who is the One in whom we have been sealed by God.

Notice not only "Salvation Is a Fact Assured By the Word of God" and Salvation Is a Fact Affirmed By the Witness of the Spirit but also:

### C. Salvation Is a Fact Witnessed By Others

All of us are familiar with the saying, "We are the only Bible many ever read." It is imperative on us that we are always Christ-like in everything we do!

The old song implores—“Let others see Jesus in you.”

It says in Acts 4:13:

**Acts 4:13**

<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

When others observe our lives do they say, “That person has been with Jesus”?

Note that Salvation Is Based on Fact and Not Feeling but also:

## **2. SALVATION IS BROUGHT ABOUT BY REGENERATION NOT REFORMATION**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Salvation is not TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF but it is RECEIVING A NEW LIFE

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

What type of life is it?



## A. It's a Life That Is Protected

Our lives are in His hands.

The Lord said in John 10:

### **John 10:27-30**

<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: <sup>28</sup> And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and *my* Father are one.

We are protected by the hand of God! We are protected by the blood of Christ.

### **Ephesians 1:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

It's not only a "Life That Is Protected" but also:

## B. It's a Life That Is Productive

God saved each of us for a purpose. The Christian life is meant to be a productive life.

### **Ephesians 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good

works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The Lord said in John 15:

**John 15:8**

<sup>8</sup> Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

What is He talking about? He is talking about being productive. The more fruit we bring forth and the more we abound in that, which is good, the more our Father is glorified!

It's not only a "Life That Is Protected" and a "Life That Is Productive" but also:

C. It's a Life That Is Purposeful

The Christian life is not only to be productive but also purposeful.

In Paul's writings we see three things that he aspired to do as a Christian:

- To Reflect Christ's Person

**Philippians 1:21**

<sup>21</sup> For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

Paul said "My life is consumed with Christ! My life is to live for HIM!" For Paul, the essence of life was Christ

and having a vital spiritual union with him. Paul's whole purpose in life was to speak out boldly for Christ and to become more like him.

- To Rely of Christ's Power

### **Galatians 2:20**

<sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

It was through Christ's power that Paul accomplished the great things for Christ that he accomplished.

### To Remember Christ's Position

Paul remembered Christ's position—Lord and Saviour—so Paul had the right priorities!

### **Colossians 3:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup> For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Note that “Salvation Is Built on Fact and Not Feeling” and “Salvation Is Brought About By Regeneration Not Reformation” but also:

### **3. SALVATION IS BASED UPON THE WORK OF GOD NOT UPON OUR WORK FOR GOD**

#### **Titus 3:5-7**

<sup>5</sup>Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; <sup>6</sup>Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; <sup>7</sup>That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Note:

#### **A. Salvation Is God's Work of Conviction**

Note what the Lord said in John 16:

#### **John 16:8-11**

<sup>8</sup>And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: <sup>9</sup>Of sin, because they believe not on me; <sup>10</sup>Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; <sup>11</sup>Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

The Holy Spirit convinces men of sin by showing them what sin is and showing them that they are sinners in need of atonement.

## B. Salvation Is God's Work of Conversion

### **Ephesians 2:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, <sup>5</sup> Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) <sup>6</sup> And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: <sup>7</sup> That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

## C. Salvation Is God's Work of Consummation

### **2 Timothy 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Paul was not hoping against hope that he would make it to Heaven. He said with confidence—“...For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”

Close:

Salvation is Built on Fact and Not Feeling, Salvation is Brought About Regeneration and Not Reformation and Salvation Is Based Upon the Work of God Not Upon Our Work For God.

The question that's most important Have you truly been saved by faith in the finished work of the Lord, and if you know you're saved are you rejoicing in the salvation provided to you by the Cross?