

10/23/05

Sin and Salvation

We want to begin our series on "The basic foundations of the Christian faith", which I believe is one of the most important teachings that is taught here at Pasadena on an ongoing basis since the inception of this ministry in 1980.

The series deals with topics such as the origin of sin, the need of salvation, the importance of the word, prayer, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and being a witness, just to mention a few.

When we call this a new believers class some Christians get turned off to it if they have been in the Lord for some time, yet many people in the church though they have been in the Lord for a time are not grounded in these basics and therefore are not able to grow and develop with maturity to resist the flesh the devil and the world.

The Scriptures tell us that he who thinks he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. 1Cor. 8:2

* How much do you know about all that can be known in what you think you know best?

* And the warning is to let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 1Cor. 10:12

Therefore we want to look at topic of "Sin and salvation" and ask some basic questions to help us get the answers we need.

- I. What is sin?
- II. Where did sin come from?
- III. What can be done about sin?
- IV. How does then redemption affect me?

I. What is sin?

* Too often, people think of sin only as certain deeds or acts, wherein fact sin is far more than mere deeds or acts!

A. Sin is unbelief.

1. It is manifested in disobedience, as a wrong attitude in reference to the expressed will of God. 1Sam. 15:22

2. It is manifested in thought, word or deed. Matt. 15:18-20

* Catholic theology teaches venial and mortal sins!

B. Sin is missing the mark.

* From an old English game of shooting arrows through a hoop and if you missed one, you were called a sinner, you missed the mark, be it by an inch or mile.

1. Anything that is not from faith is sin. Rom. 14:23b

a. Faith in this context is in areas of personal liberty of conscience that

may in fact not bother one person but stumble another.

* An example would be the eating meat versus vegetables.

b. Faith is acting on God's revealed Word, then it is Biblical faith, not just believing anything.

* It is not a leap into the darkness but a step into the light!

2. Anything that is disobedience to the revealed Word of God is sin.

1Kings 13:26

a. To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. Ja. 4:17

b. All unrighteousness is sin, therefore, in ourselves we all miss the mark.

1Jn. 5:17a

3. Anything that is from a wrong motive or apart from agape love is sin.

1Cor. 13:1-2

a. Love is all that God honors.

b. My attitude will be in direct proportion to whatever motivates my life.

1Cor. 4:5

C. Sin is against God.

1. Joseph told Potiphar's wife when she wanted to lie with him, "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" Gen. 39:9b

* Those who are being promiscuous are not thinking they are sinning against God!

2. David regarding his sin of adultery primarily against God and said, "Against you, you only, have I sinned, God did this evil in you sight." Ps. 51:4a-b

a. This does not deny the sin against Uriah and with Bathsheba on the earthly realm, for the consequences are a clear evidence of that.

b. This simply states an acknowledgment of all sin being an offense to God as our Creator and Redeemer and not just against man.

Illustration

Sin is like a cavity to a tooth, it does cause pain right away and is hindering the health of the tooth all the time by progressively decaying it more and more!

This is what sin is!

II. Where did sin come from?

A. Sin originated with Lucifer, Satan.

1. Satan was the anointed Cherub in heaven. Ezk. 28:11-16

a. Many prophecies have a two-fold fulfillment, short term and long term. Dan. 9:24-27, Lk. 4:16-21

- b. The short term fulfillment is the King of Tyre, the long term touches Satan's rebellion in heaven and ultimate destruction. Vs. 11-12
 - c. The context is in his heavenly dwelling, in Eden "the garden of God", when he was the choir director in heaven. Vs. 13-14
* This is not the Eden of Genesis, there he is already fallen!
 - d. Sin originated within Satan, he was created with the capacity of choice. Vs. 15-16
 - e. Pride corrupted his wisdom to his own hurt. Vs. 17
2. Satan sought to be as God by pride. Is. 14:12-17
- a. "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!" Vs. 12
 - b. "For you have said in your heart: `I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north." Vs. 13
 - c. "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High." Vs. 14

- e. "Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit." Vs. 15
 - f. "Those who see you will gaze at you, And consider you, saying: `Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms." Vs. 16
 - g. "Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Who did not open the house of his prisoners?" Vs. 17
* He is called the god of this world. 2Cor. 4:4
- B.** Sin was introduced by Satan through Eve.
- 1. Adam's wife Eve, was the one who Satan came to. Gen. 3.1
 - 2. Adam's wife gave to Adam and he did eat also. Gen. 3:6e-f
 - a. Adam and Eve did not believe God's Word and disobeyed.
 - b. Adam and Eve fell into sin in thought, word and deed.
- C.** Sin was introduced by Satan by a method of attack.
- 1. He challenged God's Word.
* "Has God indeed said, "You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Gen. 3:1
 - 2. He challenges God's goodness.

- * “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, **knowing good and evil.**” (God is trying to keep you from what is good and best for you). Gen 3:5
- 3. He challenged their senses.
 - a. “The women saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.” Gen. 3:6a-d, 1Jn. 2:16
* Don’t break trust with yourself regarding your sexual purity!
 - b. We are not to be ignorant to Satan’s devices. 2Cor. 2:11
* Just try it once!
 - c. Satan can transform himself into an angel of light as well as his angels. 2Cor. 11:15, Job 1-2
* God’s will is found in God’s word!
 - d. God always gives us a way of escape. 1Cor. 10:13
- D. Sin therefore passed unto all men.
 - 1. Through one man sin entered the world. Rom. 5:12
 - 2. Through one man, sin nature was passed on, becoming children of wrath by nature and children of disobedience. Eph. 2:2-3

- 3. Through one man, all become spiritually dead and alienated from God. Eph. 2:1, 12
- 4. Through one man, all are in bondage to sin. Rom. 6:18-19, 2Pet. 2:19
* All can partake of the tree of life, the cross of Christ, no one can blame Adam any longer!

Illustration

The origin of sin is much like the origin of a person’s genetic coding for certain features, they could only have come from his or her parents!

This is where sin came from!

III. What can be done about sin?

- * Nothing, all has been done by Jesus Christ, who saved us from our sins. Matt. 1:21, 2Cor. 5:21
- A. God promised redemption. Gen. 3:15
 - 1. The prophecy promised the destruction of Satan’s authority by the bruising of the head, a fatal blow, while the bruising of the heel was only a temporary injury to Messiah at the cross.
 - 2. The prophecy is one of the promised Messiah to redeem man in the future.
 - 3. The promises was that a woman would bear a son without the aid of a man, the

seed of the woman is the key, for no woman has a seed only the egg.

B. God made the first sacrifice. Gen 3:21

1. An innocent animal had to die in their place as a substitute in their place.
2. A principle of blood for atoning for sin was established.
3. A covering for their nakedness was accomplished completely by God.
 - * The prophetic principle for the forgiveness of sins is by the death and blood of a substitute or man.

C. God secured the redemption promise.

Gen. 3:22-24

1. God did not want to give man an opportunity to eat of the tree of lie in the fallen state lest he would of eaten and lived eternally in a fallen state. Vs. 22
2. God drove man out of the Garden to till the ground. Vs. 23-24a
3. God placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life. Vs. 24b-d
 - * Man's heart is deceitful in Jeremiah. Jer. 17:9, Matt. 15:19

D. God has made the way very clear.

1. The Father gave His only begotten Son out of love, that whosoever believe on

Him should have everlasting life. Jn. 3:16

2. The Son Jesus declared He was the only way to the Father. Jn. 14:6
3. Peter said that there was no other name whereby men can be saved but Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12
4. Paul said that there is only one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. 1Tim. 2:5

Illustration

The only thing that we can do about sin is much like the only thing that we can do about removing our gall blabber, depend totally on someone who has the ability to deal with it or it will kill us!

This is what we can do about sin!

IV. How does redemption affect me?

- A.** I as a Christian am identified with the last Adam, Jesus Christ. 1Cor. 15:45-47
 1. The first Adam became a living soul but the Last Adam became a life-giving spirit. Vs. 45
 2. The spiritual is not first but the natural and afterward the spiritual. Vs. 46
 3. The First Adam was from earth, made of the dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. Vs. 47

- B.** I as a Christian have identified with Jesus by accepting Jesus Christ.
1. Through being born-again. Jn. 3:3-6
 2. Through confession with my mouth and belief in my heart in salvation through Christ. Rom. 10:9-10, 13
 - a. The product is called repentance!
 - b. The process is conviction by the Holy Spirit of my sin, lost condition and the confession of both to Jesus.
- C.** I as a Christian am not the same person after the fact of being born-again.
1. I am a new creature. 2Cor. 5:17
 2. I don't yield my members to sin any longer. Rom. 6:11-14
 - * My sin nature is ever present till the day I die!
 3. I must crucify myself to Christ and live by faith in Christ to live through me. Gal. 2:20-21
 4. I wrestle with principalities of darkness for I am born into a warfare. Eph. 6:1-18
 5. I must learn to take the way of escape always offered to me by God. 1Cor. 10:13
 - a. Sin, Satan and Self, the trinity of darkness, are constantly against me!
 - b. Salvation restored my spiritual fellowship with God!

- c. Sin interrupts my spiritual fellowship with God but restored by confession of my sin! 1Jn. 2:1

Illustration

Redemption affects us much like marriage, I am never the same ever again and I am bound for life!

This is how redemption affects me!

Conclusion

This is what the Bible teaches about sin and salvation!

- I.** Now you know what sin is!
- II.** Now you know where sin came from!
- III.** Now you know what can be done about your sin!
- IV.** Now you know how redemption affects you!