

Lesson 13: Man and Salvation

Lesson Introduction



In this final lesson in our study of Anthropology, we will examine some core things that take place in the believer at the moment of salvation. These are not things that are always necessary to discuss when witnessing, but it is good for the believer to know after what has taken place in his life.

Lesson Outline

Topic 1: Justification

Illustrations of Justification

Topic 2: Faith

Topic 3: Repentance

A Change, Not Penance

Topic 4: Regeneration

Topic 5: Sanctification, Adoption, Redemption

Topic 1: Justification

What is justification? Well you are going to find justification and righteousness coming from the same Greek word and used inseparably. These are two words, justification and righteousness that are used and united in Scripture every time. Justification means to declare righteous. It doesn't mean to make righteous, it means to declare righteous. (ROMANS 3:24) So justification, being declared righteous from an almighty God, is not anything that we can do to earn, it says it's through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. It's the same thing where it says "through faith" in Ephesians 2:8-9. In other words, the means of salvation, the means of justification, is faith and the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Verse 25 (Romans 3:25-26) Some of you know typesetting, and is now laid out in a word processor, and you'll know that on one side of the paper, or sometimes both sides you'll have a line that's justification. That's making it all right, that's making it all even. So God declares you righteous based on your exercising faith. Justification simply means to declare righteous. Man is justified by faith, apart from the deeds of the law. That's the big question, the big problem that we're facing, not only in Protestantism, but in many other churches that just say we're saved, justified by faith and works, it's what you did and Christ did, and this is what some evangelical churches are getting into today. Adding some conditions to something that is conditionless. The only condition for salvation is faith, and that's not a work is it? So here we have man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. (Romans 3:28) What was the law for? What was the 10 commandments for, and the other laws? The law was to show us the need of a savior, it was like a mirror, and it shows us how dirty we are. Everyone is in need of salvation, everyone is in need of justification. Everyone needs to be declared righteous. Why, because we aren't righteous. We are sinners, so therefore we conclude that man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. (Romans 3:29-30) It's all by faith that we are saved.

Assignment:

- Memorize Romans 3:24
- Memorize Romans 3:28

QUESTION 1

Justification means to _____ righteous.

QUESTION 2

Justification and _____ are used inseparably in Scripture.

QUESTION 3

God declares you righteous based on the _____ that is in Christ Jesus.

QUESTION 4

The condition for salvation is _____ alone in _____ alone.

QUESTION 5

The purpose of the law and the 10 commandments was to show us our need of a _____.

Illustrations of Justification

No one condemns us if you've been justified. Isn't that wonderful? Even Satan can't condemn you. It says that he the accuser, he's in heaven saying "did you just see what that person did? Did you just see?" Jesus will say, "you know I died for that sin. That person has been declared righteous, and that person is righteous." In (Romans 8:33-34) Put the past behind you and serve Him today. Go forth and serve in a great and mighty way. Why? Because you've been justified, you've been declared righteous and now when God sees you, He sees the righteousness of Christ. Forgiveness is never given apart from Christ. If you want forgiveness, if you want to be justified, if you want to be declared righteous, it can only happen through Christ. God has forgiven sin in such a way as to not legitimize it. Some people say, Well, when a sinner is saved, it's an evidence of God's grace. A sinner is justified, therefore let's keep sinning that grace may abound. And the response to that is "God forbid." We've been saved from that, Christ died for those sins, and the more we sin, the more that we show our disregard for what He has done. Yes He's paid for all those sins, but it's a horrible way for a Christian to live. And God has forgiven sin in such a way as to not legitimize it. We have some illustrations of justification. It talks about Abraham, how Abraham was justified. Was Abraham justified before God when he was willing to offer his son on Mount Moriah? The Bible says that was not when he was justified but rather when he believed God and that was early on, way before Isaac even came into the picture by a promise. Abraham was justified by faith it says, in (Romans 4:3) Counted unto him for righteousness, what does that sound like? Justification. He was justified. (Romans 4:4) If he had to work for it, it would not have been grace but debt, (Romans 4:5). That is justification. It's the person that does not work, it's the person that realizes they cannot work, that person that has faith in the one that did the work, is declared righteous by a holy and righteous God. Noah, it says in (Hebrew 11:7) Noah was an heir of righteousness, not by the act of building an ark (which by the way was a beautiful picture of salvation) Noah was an heir of righteousness by faith. He was saved by faith.

QUESTION 6

It is not possible for a justified believer to face _____.

QUESTION 7

_____ and _____ can only come through Christ.

QUESTION 8

God has _____ sin in such a way as to not legitimize it.

QUESTION 9

Abraham was justified before God when he _____.

Topic 2: Faith

So we ask the question what is faith? It's a little easier to understand, I think most of you understand what faith is. There's two Greek words in Scripture, one is a noun, one is a verb, they're very similar: pistuo, pistos, which is faith and believe. So if you want to know what faith is, it's believing, it's trusting, depending upon something or someone. (Romans 1:16-17) We know that salvation is by faith, we also know that our sanctification, our walking with Christ is by faith as well. It is by faith that we are saved, and then we need to rely on him each and every day, there needs to be a walk of faith with the Lord our savior. Salvation is by faith. Faith is the basis for salvation, and the Christian life. (Romans 3:28) It's by faith alone that we are justified. Hebrews 11, without faith you cannot please God, John 20 talks about Thomas was a man that was walking by sight, and he should have been walking by faith. So we know what faith is in salvation, we also know what faith is in the Christ life. An explanation of faith: faith is reliance or trust. Faith is based on knowledge. Some people just have a blind faith in something. I think that's evolution. We're just completely jumping off a cliff when we say that we believe that we came from nothing. It's just illogical, irrational, but people accept it. That's a knowledgeless faith. Christianity is a knowledge based faith. In Ephesians 1:13 it talks about hearing, then believing. We don't just believe, we hear the Gospel. We hear Jesus the Son of God, lived a perfect life, died and rose again. Then we receive that through faith, we believe that. After you hear, you believe. Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God Romans 10:17. What is believe? If faith trust and believe are all the same thing, then what is believe? If you believe something, you are accepting it as true. If you believe something you are accepting it as true. Trust or confidence, faith, reliance, it's all the same idea. It's when a person realizes they can't save themselves and put their full dependence, trust faith, they believe, that Jesus died for them and rose again. So that is what faith is. Faith is when you lie down on a bed, you are putting your full weight on that structure, and you are totally relying on that structure to hold you up. That is faith. (John 5:24) it's hearing and believing. Believing is faith. God alone can save us, and he does the very second we put our trust in him. Oh what a wonderful thing, that salvation is by faith, and it's not a work, and it's something that everyone can exercise. Faith is an attitude of expectation to the one who is able to do it and we are saved by faith from the penalty of sin, we live by faith with the expectation that God will deliver us from the power of sin, and we will be trusting, and living by faith that in the future we will be free from the very presence of sin.

Assignment:

- Memorize Romans 1:16-17

QUESTION 10

Faith is _____ or _____ on something or someone else.

QUESTION 11

_____ is the basis for salvation and the Christian life.

QUESTION 12

Faith is not blind _____.

QUESTION 13

To believe is to accept something as _____.

Topic 3: Repentance

What is repentance? This is a big question these days, most people that use the word repentance in context of salvation, what they are saying is that you need to turn from all known sin. Turn from sin, is a common definition of the word repentance today. We do believe that repentance has bearing on salvation, but we do not believe that God is requiring someone to turn from all known sin to be saved, because that is work. That's a Roman catholic idea of penance. Repentance, it's the whole idea of you have to have a certain amount of sorrow of heart; but we don't find that in scripture relating to salvation. We do find a few times where Jesus preached repentance, in (Matthew 4:17), (ACTS 3:19), so we do see repentance referred to when talking about salvation, but we have to define it. What is repentance? It's the New Testament word, metanoio , metanaio, different tenses of the word, and it simply means to change your mind. I tell you, you can do a lot of study on this with Greek lexicons, and if you find that this is the base meaning of the word, to change your mind. That is the only way repentance is defined when it comes to salvation. If you see repent or repentance when it comes to salvation, it always means to change your mind. It doesn't sound right in English, because repent usually means to be sorry, to stop sinning, but if God required someone to stop sinning to be saved, we would all be lost. I'd be lost, because I've not stopped sinning. No that's not what it means when it comes to salvation. A Christian ought to repent, the Laodiceans ought to repent, which is a change of mind that would lead to a change in action and life, but when it talks about salvation it's a change of mind. Hearing the word of God, and believing, and subsequent to that would be a change of life, you continue to walk in the Spirit. But repentance is not reformation, or turning form all known sin. It's not contrition, a sorrow for sin. How do I know that? Well there is a place that talks about repentance, and in this place I know for sure that it's not talking about a sorrow for sin.

QUESTION 14

Some common definitions of repentance today are to be _____ for or _____ from your sin.

QUESTION 15

Biblical _____ is required for salvation.

QUESTION 16

When witnessing, we should refrain from telling people that they must _____ to be saved.

QUESTION 17

If God's requirement for salvation was to stop _____, then no one could be saved.

QUESTION 18

Biblical repentance is a change of _____.

A Change, Not Penance

Look at (2 Corinthians 7:10) So we see it there, is backwards of what we'd expect if repentance meant to be sorry for your sins. It's not penance, that's a catholic idea, you have to do penance. It's not a self-imposed suffering, an expression of contrition for sin, and you know some people will do all sorts of things, to show how sorry they are, that they might enter the gates of heaven. That is not a biblical term. It is a change of mind. It is required for salvation in the sense that a man needs to trust only in Christ, leaving all other confidences. So if you want to know what repentance has to do with salvation, it's when one comes to a realization that he trusts in one person alone, that is Jesus Christ, not yourself, not your works, not your religion, and I'll explain some of that, but I won't use the word repent. Why? Because the book of John, that was written for the sole purpose of bringing people to Christ, the purpose statement in John 20, never ever uses metanoio. Never uses the word repent, ever. And if that is the Gospel tract to the world, which it is, that's the purpose statement of that Gospel, and someone messed up by leaving out that most important word of contrition or feeling sorry or penance, it's not in there. So that's another reason why I know it's a change of mind. It's used synonymous with believing several times, in (Acts 20:21) They're synonymous, the same thing. So that's another reason we believe repentance for salvation is change of mind, or faith. Faith, it's the same thing. It cannot be added to believing as a condition for salvation, and a lot of people keep adding things and adding things as conditions for salvation, and we cannot do that . the only condition for salvation is believe. Some manifestations of repentance? The change in the intellect or the mind, the change of feelings, since they follow actions, a change of will as it would suggest in 1 Thessalonians 1:9 , a change of action, in other words as a man thinks in his heart so is he. The way you think will usually dictate the way you act. So that's the manifestations of repentance, what are the conditions of repentance? It is through the goodness of God, it is through the Gospel of God that a person would metanoio, change their mind. It is through Scriptural teaching that a person would change their mind, and it's through the chastisements of God that a person would change their mind. So that's repentance, but remember, in understanding salvation, repentance is a change of mind....

Assignment:

- Memorize 2 Corinthians 7:10

QUESTION 19

If “repentance” meant to be _____ for your sin, then 2 Corinthians 7:10 would be wrong

QUESTION 20

_____ is required for salvation in the sense that a man needs to trust only in Christ, leaving all other confidences.

QUESTION 21

Since the Gospel of John never uses the word _____ we should avoid it in witnessing. *True or False?*

QUESTION 22

It is the _____ of God that would cause someone to repent.

Topic 4: Regeneration

What is regeneration? Regeneration. Jesus was talking to Nicodemus in John 3, he said you have to be born again, Nicodemus said to him what’s that? (John 3:4) I don’t think he was really asking that question to be serious, but to be sarcastic, and Jesus said in (John 3:5). I believe born of water is the physical birth, that is how a baby is born, of water, and then of the spirit is a spiritual birth. A spiritual birth, that is what regeneration is. This is a complete change in us, it’s a new nature. This regeneration washes and cleanses the believer. It talks about this in Titus 3:5) This is something that’s like a spiritual scrubbing that happens, it’s a new birth, something wonderful. It’s not reformation, it’s not turning over a new leaf, it’s not improvement, it’s not changing for the better. We are dead in trespasses and sins, and improving a dead nature is not going to help. That is what most religions are trying to do, most programs are trying to do. If we are going to stop the crime in the inner city, and in the suburbs, reformation isn’t going to cut it. We need regeneration, we need a new birth, a second birth, and that’s why we better get out there and preach the gospel. That’s the only thing that’s going to make a difference. We’re dead in trespasses and sins. It’s not conversion, it’s not undergoing a moral change, it’s not a ritual of confirmation, it’s not a ritual of water baptism, it’s not church membership, it’s not communion, it’s not anything other than a creative act of the holy spirit at the moment of belief. That is regeneration. Through the new birth we become partakers of the divine nature, it says in 2 Peter 1:4. It says (2 Peter 1:4). What is compulsion of one being regenerated? Well it’s a necessity for salvation; you must be born again it says. We’ve seen in the depravity of man, man is 100% unable to save himself. We desperately need, we are compelled to have a rebirth. We see it in the universality of sin. All have sinned. Everyone needs this rebirth, and it is seen in the holiness of God.

QUESTION 23

Regeneration is the complete change that takes place in us at the time of _____.

QUESTION 24

Regeneration is not _____ or changing for the _____.

QUESTION 25

The Gospel is the only thing that is going to make a _____ in society and people's lives.

QUESTION 26

Regeneration is a necessity for _____.

Topic 5: Sanctification, Adoption, Redemption

What is sanctification? Sanctification has 3 tenses. There's what is past, what is present, and what is future. What is past is the position. We are sanctified, and that's how we are going to talk about in relation to salvation – it's positional sanctification. In 1 Thessalonians 4:3 it talks about the will of God, even your sanctification. God's will is for your sanctification. Positionally you are sanctified the moment you believe, you were made righteous, declared righteous, it's positional. So when God sees you He sees the righteousness of Christ. That's the first tense of sanctification. It says in (1 Corinthians 6:11 such were some of you but you were washed, you are sanctified. That happens, the regeneration, the justification, the sanctification. That's what God did at the moment of salvation; it's positional and then the other two are practical, we need to walk with the Lord each and every day that we might be sanctified in this life, and then the final sanctification – the glorification when we are in Heaven, and oh it's going to be a great day in Heaven when that happens at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. What is adoption? Have you ever heard of adoption in the Scriptures? In Romans 8:23 it talks about how (Romans 8:23). This is different than when we think of an adoption. In God's family adoption is used in a different sense. Adoption is the redemption of the body. You are not adopted into God's family, you are born into God's family, and that is biblical adoption. We know that we are sons and daughters of God. We receive the holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit delivers us from a slavish fear of God. What is the verse that proves that? (Romans 8:15) Now we need to have a holy and respectful reverence of God, but we can also not fear him throwing us into hell, and we can have a wonderful close relation with the God of all glory. That can only happen by this biblical adoption. This all happens at the time of salvation, at the time of faith. Our adoption will be fully realized on the day of redemption. What is redemption? (Galatians 3:13) We deserve that penalty, that curse. But he bore that curse for us, he redeemed us. The best way to understand redemption is to read the book of Ruth. If you want to know what redemption is and how it parallels with our life today read the book of Ruth. Here are some things that we learn from that book about a redeemer. A redeemer must be a near kinsman. That is what Boaz was, a near relation. Was Christ a near kinsman? He became a kinsman, he became flesh Hebrews 2:14. He was one of us, so he fit that criteria to be a redeemer according to the Old Testament principle of a redeemer. The second thing is there is a price of redemption and that price was paid by Boaz to Ruth. The price of redemption must be paid. Did you know the church was purchased? By the blood...the blood was payment for you, to be purchased as a

redemption. Then a redeemer must be willing to redeem. You can't force someone to redeem. Boaz had to want to redeem Ruth, and he did, and Christ did, he was willing to die, even the death of the cross for our future glory. Hebrews 10:9-10. Then the last thing is that the redeemer must be free from the calamity that caused the need for redemption. Why ever we need to be bought back, the redeemer can't be under that same problem. We need to be redeemed because of sin separation from God; he had no sin, therefore he was not under what caused us to be redeemed. So therefore, we have a redeemer, and we have redemption, another component of salvation.

QUESTION 27

The three tenses of sanctification are what is _____, what is _____, and what is _____future

QUESTION 28

_____ sanctification is the present tense.

QUESTION 29

Biblical _____ is being born into God's family.

QUESTION 30

A redeemer must be willing to pay the price of _____.