

## The Clear Gospel Message – 10/24/21

**TEXT-** 1 John 5:11-13 *And this is the record, that God hath given to us . . .*

**INTRO – Book by Bruce Foster – “The Doubt Problem”**

**Harry Ironside – Full Assurance**

From the fall of man recorded in the book of Genesis it is clear that man has fallen from his holy state and has been sinful by nature.

Since the fall of Adam and Eve restoration has become necessary and it has only been possible by the intervention of God.

- In Genesis God clothed Adam and Eve with coats of animals signifying an innocent animal needed to be sacrificed for the redemption of man.
- God gave instruction to Noah to build an ark, which he did by faith, that became the salvation of his family
- God called Abram and made a covenant with him which provided a means of forgiveness and salvation.
- Moses was instructed on the Levitical laws so that people could be restored to God. The Tabernacle and the Levitical priesthood intervened between God and man to bring atonement.
- A New Covenant was given fulfilling the old through Jesus Christ.

In every dispensation of time salvation was provided only by the intervention of God.

No man can save himself. No one can be good enough or do enough to change his standing before a holy God. It is only by His mercy that we can be saved.

**Titus 3:5** *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;*

God has offered salvation to all human beings in this period of time so that by faith in Christ's death in the cross we can be saved.

**Eph 2:8-9** *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

**Rom 4:1-3** *What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? 2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. 3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

**We can only be justified by faith alone.**

**Rom 3:20** *Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

**Rom 3:24-25** *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*

The clear gospel message is that man can be forgiven of his sins, made a child of God and provided a home in heaven.

**How does this transformation occur?**

- The new birth is an instantaneous event whereby we are born into God's family. **Born again.**

**John 3:3** *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*

**John 1:13** *Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

John uses the phrase “**born of God**” seven times in his first epistle  
People can be categorized into four groups.

1. Unsaved
2. Babe in Christ
3. Defeated Christian
4. Victorious Christian

Unfortunately most people in the world do not know what a Christian is or how they can become one. They trust in religious works and good intentions, depending on the energy of the flesh.

**I. Unbelievers are blinded to their lost condition.** – 2 Co 4:4 *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not. . .*

Satan works in a variety of ways:

- **Some ignore their spiritual condition**

They live for the things of the world – Their family, money and things it will buy, fame and fortune. They may even convince themselves that God is not real and hell is fake.

- **Some trust in a false religion**

**2 Co 11:13-15** *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

- **Some trust in their good deeds**

**1 Co 2:14** *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

**Eph 2:8-9** *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.*  
**Titus 3:5** *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;*

- **Some trust in an emotional experience**

**Trusting emotions is trusting the flesh**

**Rom 7:18** *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

- **Some are scorers and fools**

**2 Pe 3:3-4** *Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

**You are either saved or lost!**

**The only means of assurance is from the Word of God!**

## **II. The Necessary Elements of Salvation**

### **A. Hear and understand the Word of God**

**Rom 10:17** *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

**1 Pe 1:23** *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

**John 5:39** *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

**Many students come to NEBC and testify they thought they were saved at a very young age but later in their teens or at college truly understood and were saved.**

### **B. The intervention of the Holy Spirit**

**John 6:44** *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

**If Satan can get true believers to doubt their salvation and give unbelievers a false confidence he is successful in neutralizing the Christian and sending the lost to hell.**

**Illumination is when the Holy Spirit helps us understand a given text as it actually is.**

**1 Co 2:11** *For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.*

## **Twin Chinese boys – one saved – the other lost**

**Conviction** – Conviction is the work of the Holy Spirit where a person is able to see himself as God sees him: guilty, defiled, and totally unable to save himself

**John 16:8** *And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*

### **C. Repentance and faith**

**Repentance and faith are two sides to the same coin.**

**Luke 15** – the prodigal son illustrates repentance

**Luke 18:9ff** The publican and the Pharisee illustrate true repentance.

**We must appropriate our faith**

**Do you believe in airplanes? (III)**

**Justification settles it all.**

**Rom 5:1** *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

**John 5:24** *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.*

### **D. The evidence we are saved**

**1 Jn 3:14** *We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.*

**There are things that lead up to salvation and things that follow, but there is a time and place where our souls destiny is settled when we place our faith and trust in Christ's finished work at Calvary.**

**In a moment we are passed from death unto life and we are born again into God's family.**

**CONCL – Be sure it is settled in your heart**