

December 13, 2020

**"ALL" By Faith Alone in Christ Alone!**  
**"The righteous shall live by faith; how does it happen?" "But God II!"**  
**Romans 1:17, Galatians 2:20**

**All Scripture English Standard Version unless noted!**

We have clearly seen that salvation is by "faith alone"

We have seen that the offer of salvation is to "all" men without distinction

In these and other texts we see that "faith alone in Christ alone" leads to sanctification and the living a life of faith

We have looked at: "what does that look like"?

We began last week to look at "the righteous shall live by faith", how does it happen?

Will continue to look at that today

1. The Word of God will play a key role

**John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.**

2. Obedience to God's Word will become a priority

3. Love for God's Word, love for obedience to God's Word, love for His church, His people and for others will be a defining characteristic

4. We will be engaged in the home spiritually and in the local church advancing God's kingdom

A renewal of family worship and family discipleship has defined all great revivals

5. There will be an all-out effort to produce fruit of holiness and righteousness in our lives

***Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."***

***Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.***

***Today "the righteous shall live by faith"***

How do we go from having no interest in the things of God?

How do we go from it all being about me to it being all about Christ and others, (especially or spouses, children and church members)?

How do we go from not being a person of the Book to making this "the" Book?

How do we going from having no interest in church to making the church the hub in which we and our families live our lives and raise our kids?

How does it happen? I am glad you asked!

Let me tell you... the miracle and mystery of regeneration takes place! Christ takes up residence in us! The what changes?

Let's look at this miracle this morning

We looked at our state prior to regeneration,

**Ephesians 2:1-10 , Romans 3:10-12**

Remember? We saw that mankind was dead, disobedient, demonic, and destined for destruction. We were prodigals, scoundrels, vile, impure, unholy, treacherous, lecherous, self-absorbed, self-exalting, out-and-out rebels-this was our very nature

We had no understanding, no interest in the things of God, we were not seeking God  
We looked at this state being the product of..

**Genesis 2:15-17**

**Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.**

Then we began to look at the good news, the gospel, "But God"!

We were dead, but God made us alive in Christ

Remember the commentary from the GTB?

"We were not strugglers in need of a helping hand or sinking swimmers in need of a raft; we were stone-cold dead—spiritually lifeless, without a religious pulse, without anything to please God  
But he loves the loveless, gives life to the lifeless, and is merciful to those deserving no mercy"

With this bad situation, what happened?

The OT began telling us about the work of Christ!

About a coming enemy of the devil

About the sacrifices provided for forgiveness

Then in the prophets God began to talk of a new covenant

**Jeremiah 31:31-33**

A new covenant not like the old

The God would put His law in our minds and write it in our hearts

That He "would be" our God and we would be His people

**Ezekiel 36:24-27**

That He would take us from the devil and His kingdom

Bring us into a new kingdom  
Cleanse us from our sins and idols  
Give us a new heart and a new Spirit  
Put Himself, Christ in us  
And move us to do what He wanted us to do  
Now more "but God" but now from the NT

### ***What does the New Testament say about "but God"?***

I want us to see that what happens in the first 8 verses that happens in secret

The person is spiritually stone cold dead

**John 3:1-8** Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Three times Jesus says we must be "born again",  
V3, 5, 7

And now God has revealed some of this mystery in the NT

We take what He said in the OT He was going to do and what He says in the NT and we began to see something of this mystery

More "but God"!

**James 1:18** Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**1 Peter 1:23** Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.

Then there are some more "but God"s!

**Galatians 1:15-16** **But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, 16 was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone.**

But God revealed Himself to us

***And after all the "but God" God says here is what mankind must do!***

Now we will begin to see Mankind's responsibility  
**John 3:9-18a** **Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of**

**Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.**

**Numbers 21:4-9 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." 6 Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. 7 And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. 8 And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.**

**John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned.**

Three times we are told we must believe in Christ and His work in His life and His finished work on the cross

**v15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life**

**v16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life**

**v18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned**

Man is finally called upon to do something  
Believe in, have faith in the complete and finished  
work of Christ in His life and in His death  
And how does that happen, the Scripture is clear

**Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.**

In secret God begins a new work  
And don't miss the promise He will carry it on and  
fulfil the promise  
God has brought us from death to life by His Word  
But God made us willing to do what He would have  
us to do

**John 1:12-13 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. But God!**

But I want us to continue to see that it is "but God"  
**Philippians 2:12-13 NIV Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.**

**Romans 10:9-13 Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction**

**between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."**

Next week, the all out effort to be holy and righteous!