

Message Title: 1103 God's Wish List Pt-8

Theme: This message in this series examines the differences between how we expect God to work in our lives and what He actually does. It examines how faithful church members can spend years believing they are saved because they did what they were told and later on have God bring real conviction and an undeniable personal knowledge that they were not saved.

There have been many who have the personal testimony of God's dealing with them about their need of salvation following years of church service; some had even been the pastors. This subject is usually approached with skepticism by those who hear of it but the individual is certainly convinced in their own mind and heart.

How is it possible that God allows people to believe they are saved without His Spirit convicting of sin, righteousness and judgment to come. It's clear in 2Peter 3:9 that the Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. To understand this verse consideration must be given to the meaning of "the will". In this case God's will is a reference to desire or choice. From Adam and Eve until the upcoming Battle of Armageddon God does not enforce His will on his creation, it is a matter of each individual's free choice.

That choice involves Hebrews 11:6; "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him". The "faith" part is about learning enough from the "Word of God" to be able to make the choice by coming to the knowledge that it is a serious matter of life or death. The "seek Him" is about the desire to know God personally, about the desire for His pleasure above your own, about what is in His benefit without self consideration. Unfortunately this has been replaced with the emphasis on serving God for the rewards, instead of seeking His greatness and glory and having service come through love.

Salient Points: You'll get over it, Knowledge by experience, Frustrated service, Left alone by God, Changed by God's glory, Focusing on God, Thinking people wanted to know, Failing to understand, Repelled by God's glory, Flesh vs spirit, Rejected glory, God must give understanding, God's illogical ways, Why no conviction, Not our ways, Proof of salvation, Serving without salvation, Real conviction, What if salvation had visible proof, God's proof, Seeking God vs His blessings, Martha vs Mary, Expecting God to do it your way.

Series: Our Timeless Creator, Remastered – 1103

Sub Series: Our Timeless Creator 9-27-09

Scripture: Jer. 9:24, Eph. 5:9-10

Key Words:salvation, faith, seek, service, failure, understand, flesh, spirit, conviction, proof, blessings, Martha, Mary, self, love, rewards, decrease, increase, alone, glory.

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The speaker would like you to know that all of these messages are in the chronological progression that God revealed them, and even though many may stand alone, they progress through several subjects that build on the previous lessons. This series of messages titled "Our Timeless Creator" (OTC), shift the focus from salvation and service, to understanding God. How He who needs nothing, benefits from creating the human race. It started in 2007 when God brought the speaker to Psalm 50:15 three times following the miraculous healing of his dying wife. It reads, ***“And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me”***. Following this he prayed fervently. "LORD, show me how to glorify you and I will do the best I can". The speaker had become a new creature, (2 Corinthians 5:17) on May 20 1973. At that moment the reality of GOD's existence and the direct connection to the Bible became miraculously clear. Overwhelmed with excitement he began telling everyone who had a few moments to listen, what he had found, like a man who had found a cure for a terminal illness, which everyone had. His excitement and enthusiasm continued for well over a year, even when many said, "you'll get over it." Slowly his efforts began to focus on responsibility and all the how-tos of service. As the excitement faded it was replaced with frustration. He had said many times "the most frustrating thing in life is to know what GOD could do and watch him not do it". In 2005 GOD began a work as described in Job 5:17-18, that changed everything. He says," it was much like when I first became a child of God all over again". He describes it like application of (2 Corinthians 3:18), "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, ***even*** as by the Spirit of the Lord". Truly it has been a life changing experience as God increases and we, without trying, decrease.