

A Jn. 3:16 - The Logic of Salvation

- 1.) "God...loved the world" (What is God's attitude toward people?)
 - a. God loves all people and desires a relationship with them
- 2.) "...perish" (What is man's destiny? Why?)
 - a. because God is absolutely righteous and demands absolute righteousness
 - Jas. 2:10 - Law is like a chain; God does not grade on the curve
 - b. because the payment for sin is death - separation from God (Rom. 6:20)
 - Gen. 2:17 - refers to this rather than mere physical death
 - God cannot merely forgive or forget sin - it must be paid for
 - c. the purpose of the Law is not to provide a "ladder" of good works to God, but rather:
 - to show man clearly that he cannot be saved by his works (like an X-Ray, it only shows the problem - does not give power to heal it)
 - to show the way God would provide a solution - the sacrificial system teaches that God will provide an innocent substitute to pay for our sins
- 3.) "...that He gave His...Son..." (How did God accomplish this?)
 - a. Jn. 1:29 - Jesus was the fulfillment of the sacrificial system
 - b. Mk. 15:34 - Jesus experienced separation from God because He was identified with our sins and punished for them (2 Cor. 5:21a)
 - c. Jn. 19:30 - He paid for all man's sins in full
 - Q: How could He pay for all our sins in a short period of time?
 - A: Man, being finite, can endure the infinite wrath of God only by experiencing it for an infinite amount of time. Jesus, being infinite by virtue of His deity, could endure God's infinite wrath in a finite amount of time (Huge vat pouring contents into tiny cup for long time, or into other huge vat quickly)
- 4.) "...that whoever believes should...have eternal life" (What do we do?)
 - a. Jesus' death was sufficient to pay for everyone's sins, but it becomes effective only when we choose to receive it for ourselves.
 - man in debt to IRS \$1 million. It's April 15th and they permit no extension of deadline and are sending an agent at midnite to receive payment or take him into custody. The man could raise only \$43 - hopelessly short. A knock on the door and a man comes in offering a check for \$10 million made out to the debtor. The check is sufficient to pay the man's debt, but effective only if he receives it, endorses it and deposits it.
 - see 2 Cor. 5:19, 20 - cross did all that is necessary to pay for the world's sins, but Paul goes on to entreat people to "be reconciled to God" (vs 20) - they must receive the work of the cross to make it apply to them
 - b. the word "believe" needs some definition:
 - the Greek word (PISTEUO) means "to trust in" - to personally trust Christ's work to pay the penalty for your sins
 - Jn. 1:12 links this word to receiving Christ (see also Rev. 3:20)
 - c. to sum up:
 - Eph. 2:8, 9 - salvation is "by grace...through faith" vs 8b, 9 explain this in greater detail. Salvation is "not of ourselves" - that is, it does not come from us or by our merit, but from God's power and goodness. "Grace" means "it is the gift of God" - not a wage, but a free, undeserved gift. "Faith" means "not as a result of works" - not labor, but simply receiving the gift.
 - Gal. 2:16 - also shows clearly that salvation is by faith, not good works. vs 21 goes on to point out that if men could get back to God by good works, God committed the greatest crime in history - He sent His Son to die needlessly.
 - Illustrate this by talking about the fact that Pope could go to hell while Charles Manson could go to heaven. What kind of people are offended by this?

10/10/10

A. In 3:16 - The Logic of Salvation

1. "God...loved the world" (What is God's attitude toward people?)
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b. "...particular" (What is man's destiny? Why?)

c. because God is absolutely righteous and demands absolute righteousness
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- Gen. 2:17 - refers to this rather than mere physical death
- God cannot merely forgive or forget sin - it must be paid for
e. the purpose of the Law is not to provide a "ladder" of good works to God, but rather:

- to show man clearly that he cannot be saved by his works (like an X-ray); it only shows the problem - does not give power to heal it
- to show the way that would provide a solution - the sacrificial system teaches that God will provide an innocent substitute to pay for our sins
f. "that He gave His...Son..." (How did God accomplish this?)
g. In 1:29 - Jesus was the fulfillment of the sacrificial system
d. In 1:29-34 - Jesus experienced separation from God because He was identified with our sins and punished for them (2 Cor. 5:21a)

c. In 1:29-30 - He paid for all man's sins in full
- If God could He pay for all our sins in a short period of time?
A: Man, being finite, can measure the infinite wrath of God only by experiencing it for an infinite amount of time. Jesus, being infinite by virtue of His deity, could endure God's infinite wrath in a finite amount of time (huge yet pouring contents into tiny cup for long time, or into other ways very quickly)

2. "...that whoever believes should...have eternal life" (What do we do?)
a. Jesus' death was sufficient to pay for everyone's sins, but it becomes effective only when we choose to receive it for ourselves.

- man in debt to US \$1 million. It's April 15th and they permit no extension of deadline and are sending an agent at midnight to receive payment or take his into custody. The man could raise only \$25 - hopelessly short. A knock on the door and a man comes in offering a check for \$10 million made out to the debtor. The check is sufficient to pay the man's debt, but effective only if he receives it, endorses it and deposits it.
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- illustrate this by talking about the fact that Pope could go to hell while Charles Manson could go to heaven. What kind of people are offended by this?

Why? What kind of people are glad to hear this? Why? The Pharisee and Publican (Lk. 18:9-14) illustrates this well.

B. How God Views Us Now

- 1.) Complete forgiveness of sins
 - a. Eph. 4:32 - "has forgiven"; Col. 2:13 - "all our transgressions"
 - b. Rom. 8:1 - "no condemnation" - period
 - c. Jn. 5:24 - "does not come into judgement" - we do not even appear at this judgement
- 2.) Complete acceptance and affirmation
 - a. 2 Cor. 5:21b - "that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" - God is free to view us as legal recipients of Christ's righteousness.
 - b. Heb. 10:10-17 - vs 14 "has perfected for all time those who are sanctified" We have been "brought to completion" (meaning of "perfected") in regard to our acceptance before God. Therefore, God does not remember our sins as far as our acceptance with Him is concerned.
- 3.) Security
 - a. Eph. 1:13, 14; 4:30 - God has "sealed" us in Christ with the Holy Spirit for heaven. Paul is using a term familiar to all in the Roman Empire. When a Roman official sent a document, he put the seal of Rome on it. That seal was the tangible proof that all the power of Rome guaranteed safe passage of the document to its destination. In the same way, God has put His seal on us (The Holy Spirit) to give us tangible proof that all the power of God guarantees safe passage of His property (us) to its destination (heaven).
 - b. Rom. 8:29; Eph. 1:4, 5 - The term "predestined" means to set or fix someone's ultimate destiny. God has set the believers ultimate destiny - He will be conformed to Christ, or made holy and blameless.
 - * note that it does not teach that God predestines us to believe. God fixes our ultimate destiny as believer, having foreknown that we would choose to believe.
 - * ILLUSTRATION: A man walks up to the edge of a cliff. He can choose to back off from the edge, or he can choose to jump. If he jumps, certain other laws take over which fix his ultimate destiny - namely, that he will hit the bottom of the cliff. Now if I could know beforehand that he would jump, I could safely predict beforehand his ultimate destiny - even though he made a free will decision. In the same way, God does not make us choose Him. But if we do, He tells us that our ultimate destiny is fixed - we will be conformed to Christ in heaven. Since God knew how I would choose even before the foundation of the world, He could safely predict my ultimate destiny, even though He did not make me choose Him.

C. Assignment.

- 1.) Memorize: Eph. 2:8, 9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:13
- 2.) Read the marked scriptures on page 3 of "Man's Part of Sanctification"; be familiar with them for next week.

Why? What kind of people are glad to hear that? Why? The phrase and
Publication (Lk. 16:24-25) illustrates this well.

How God Views Us Now

1.) Complete forgiveness of sins
a. Eph. 1:7 - "has forgiven"; Col. 2:13 - "All our transgressions"
b. Rom. 8:1 - "no condemnation" - period
c. Jas. 2:26 - "does not come into judgment" - we do not even appear at this judgment

2.) Complete acceptance and affirmation
a. 2 Cor. 5:21b - "that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" - God is free to view us as legal recipients of Christ's righteousness.
b. Heb. 10:10-14 - "we are perfected for all time those who are sanctified" - we have been "brought to completion" (meaning of "perfected") in regard to our acceptance before God. Therefore, God does not remember our sins as far as our acceptance with Him is concerned.

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