

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Jude 24-25
Lesson #37
Finish Well
09/18/2022

Jude 24-25

“24 Now to Him who is able to **keep** you from stumbling, and to **make you stand (present you)** in the presence of His glory **blameless** with great joy,

**God enables us to stand,
with confidence, before a holy God**

25 to the only God our Savior, **through Jesus Christ** our Lord, *be* glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.”

**by grace through faith
“In Christ”.**

What should we expect?

- Does God promise us **eternal security** so that we need never fear of losing our salvation?
- What about those who are **not perfected** or who **seem to lose their faith**?

Or is this addressing God’s promise to keep us secure in His grace even **when we sin (fall short of the glory of God)?**



How is this possible?

Implications

- If we assume that true Christians can not “fall away” and they are identified by their persevering faith, then **WE** must persevere in faith lest we be shown to be false believers.
- No matter how one understands God’s and man’s role in “eternal security”, **WE** must take care lest we fall away in unbelief.
- In the end we are all in the same boat and will only know where we stand by how **WE** have persevered by faith in THE FAITH.
- **We should not let differing theological emphasis divide us on this issue.**

Romans 16:25

“Now to Him who is **able to establish you according to my gospel** and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past,”

1 Thessalonians 5:23

“Now may the God of peace Himself **sanctify you entirely**; and may your spirit and soul and body (4:16) be **preserved complete, without blame** at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 1:8

“who shall also **confirm you to the end, blameless** in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

A parallel passage to Jude 24-25

1 Peter 1

“3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has (*caused us to be born again*) (**regenerated us**) to a living hope through **the resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and **undefiled and will not fade away**, reserved for you, 5 who are **protected by the power of God through faith** for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

Jesus’ resurrection is the regenerating gift from God that gives us eternal life.

This gift is accessed and secured through our abiding faith.

Three stumbling blocks to Gospel truths

1. Confusing the New and Old covenants



6

For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”

John 1:17



7

“For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:18



8

“Of all the great religious leaders of history, Jesus is unique in that he alone came for the purpose of dying.”

Fulton J. Sheen

9

The great symbols of the faith are **NOT**



The Law



The towel and basin



Crown of a King

reminding us of the life of Jesus and our call to service.

10

The great symbols of the faith **ARE**



The Cross



The bread and cup



Water Baptism

reminding us of our sharing in Jesus' death and resurrection.

11

The O.C. and N.C. differ with respect to how to acquire the holiness that God demands.

Old Covenant

Orthopraxy

Works of the Law

“Do”

New Covenant

Orthodoxy

Righteousness of Faith

“Done”

12

Israel understood obedience to the Law as the way of salvation.

Leviticus 18:5

“So you shall keep My statutes and My judgments, **by which a man may live** if he does them; I am the Lord”

Romans 7:10

“and this commandment, which **was to result in life**, proved to result in death for me;”

13

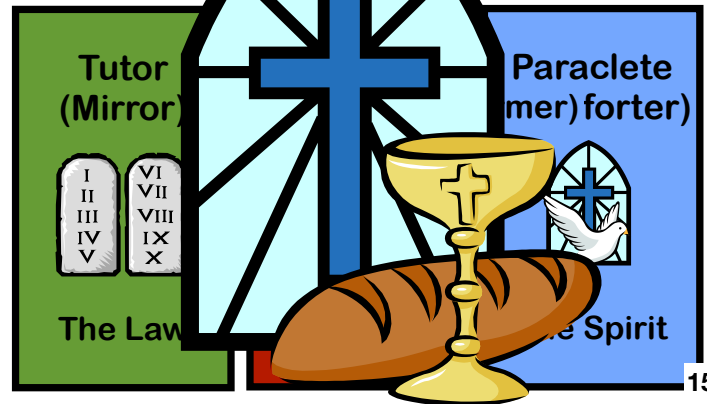
Three stumbling blocks to Gospel truths

1. Confusing the New and Old covenants
2. Confusing the work of Christ and the work of the Spirit



14

Don't confuse the ministries of the Law and the Spirit.



15

The New Covenant is rooted in “his blood” not his Spirit or Law.

Matthew 21:28

“just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and **give his life** a ransom for many.”

Matthew 26

“27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is **My blood of the covenant**, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.””

16

Three stumbling blocks to Gospel truths

1. Confusing the New and Old covenants
2. Confusing the work of Christ and the work of the Spirit




3. Confusing positional holiness through the Imputed righteousness by faith and practiced holiness through love

17

Luther made a distinction between:

“active righteousness”
and
“passive righteousness”.



Martin Luther


18

Imputation


- The attribution of a value to something independent of its intrinsic value. To “consider” or “believe” apart from our senses.
- It is a **LEGAL** status rather than an experiential phenomenon.

Genesis 15:6
“Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.”

19




The temple priest was ceremonially sanctified with water before he performed his sacred duties.



This had to do with his official position **not his personal character.**

20

The Gospel story includes three great imputations.



Adam's sin (unto humanity)

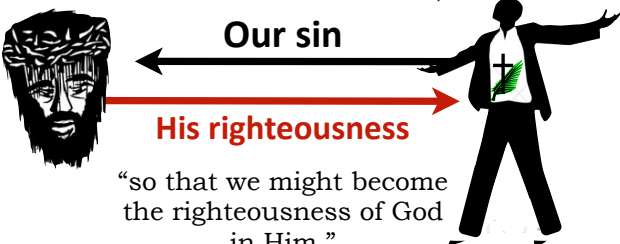
Humanity's sin (unto Christ)

Christ's righteousness (unto all who believe)

21

Positional truth

2 Corinthians 5:21
“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf,”




“so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

The Great Exchange

22

“Holiness is not the way to Christ; Christ is the way to holiness.
Better still, Christ is our holiness.”



Charles Spurgeon

23

Four kinds of righteousness (holiness)

1. The righteousness of God

This is the perfect, holy, character of God.

2. The righteousness of faith

This is the imputed holiness of Christ.

3. The righteousness of the Spirit

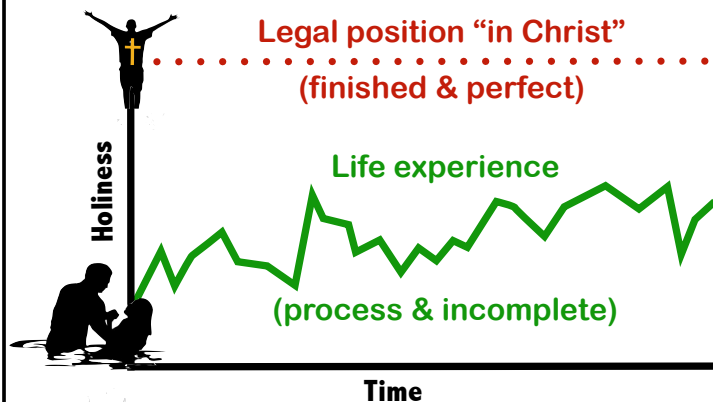
This is the fruit of the Spirit in this life.

4. The "righteousness" of the flesh

This is the superficial holiness of humanity outside Christ.

24

The two aspects of righteousness



25

The Corinthian church

✓ "To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been **sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling . . .**" *1 Corinthians 1:2*

✓ "for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not **walking like mere men.**" *1 Corinthians 3:3*

26

Positional truth

- ✓ It is not experiential.
- ✓ It is not progressive.
- ✓ It is not related to human merit.
- ✓ It is not related to moral reform.
- ✓ It fully satisfies the demands of a perfectly holy God.
- ✓ **It must be learned through teaching & applied by faith.**

27

Our POSITION in Christ means that "in Christ" we share:

- * election, Eph. 1:4.
- * destiny, Eph. 1:5,11.
- * sonship, Eph. 1:5; Heb. 2:10; Gal. 3:26.
- * righteousness, 2 Cor. 5:21.
- * inheritance, Rom. 8:16,17; Gal. 4:7.
- * holiness, 1 Cor. 1:30.
- * priesthood, 1 Pet. 2:5,9.
- * kingdom, Col. 1:13; 2 Pet. 1:11.
- * resurrection, Eph. 2:6.
- * life, Eph. 2:5; Col. 2:13; 1 John 5:11,12.
- * redemption & forgiveness, Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14.
- * body, the church, Gal. 3:27,28.
- * perfection in the sight of God, Col. 2:9,10.

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Without Positional truth

- ✓ Our relationship with Christ is relative.
- ✓ Christians can have little assurance.
- ✓ Christianity is all about me and my life.
- ✓ Christians live in constant fear of failure.
- ✓ The Old Covenant is still intact.
- ✓ Legalism and judging others are encouraged.
- ✓ The focus of the faith becomes works.

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The Fear of Positional truth

✓ It is not relational, personal, or **FELT**.

✓ It promotes moral **IRRESPONSIBILITY**.

✓ It is too **GOOD** to be true.

✓ It places too much **EMPHASIS** on justification.

✓ It **IGNORES** the importance of abiding faith.



30

The Joy of Positional truth

✓ It is the **GOOD NEWS**.

✓ It **INSPIRES FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE**.

✓ It is the **GOSPEL**.

✓ It sets us **FREE** from FEAR.

✓ It gives us **ASSURANCE** of eternal life.



31

1 Corinthians 1:30

“But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption.”



32

Shame is
God's tool before salvation



SAND
SATAN'S
TOOL
AFTER.



33

Take your baptism seriously because God does and you must if you want peace.



Bride

(Eph. 5:22-32)



Building

(1 Peter 2:4-7)



Body

(1 Cor. 12:27)



Branches

(John 15:1-16)

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