

Lesson 7: How to be Saved, Part 1

Memory Verse: "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 3:3

I. God's Love For Man

1. How did God show His love for us? Romans 5:8

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, _____ we were yet sinners, _____."

2. How much does God love you? John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that _____, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Whosoever means YOU.

3. How long does His love last? Jeremiah 31:3

"The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an _____ love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

4. How do we understand the love of God? 1 John 3:16

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because _____: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

II. Recognizing Our Need

5. What is necessary for us to see the kingdom of God? John 3:3

We must be _____

6. Why do we have to be born again? John 3:6

"That which is born of the _____ is _____;

And that which is born of the _____ is _____."

7. Read Romans 7:14-24. Are we of ourselves able to keep the law of God? YES NO

Note: So we see that even when we want to do what God's law says, we don't have the power in ourselves to keep that law. We find that we don't do what we know to be right. Who will save us from such a condition? (see verse 25)

God through _____

8. Re-read verse 24. Such is the cry that has gone up from burdened hearts in all ages.

What is the only answer? John 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the _____, which _____ of the world."

III. Repentance

9. Read Acts 2:37. When these people were convicted of sin they said, "What shall we do?" What was Peter's answer?

Acts 2:38: R_____ and be _____

Lesson 7: How to be Saved, Part 1

Acts 3:19: R_____ and be _____, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

10. What does "converted" mean? *Strong's Concordance #G1994* says "to revert [turn, change] (literally, figuratively, or morally)." So it means to turn around; to change; to turn from sin to holiness.

Note: "Repentance includes **sorrow for sin** and a **turning away from it**. We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the life." SC 23.2

11. Is there a false repentance? 2 Corinthians 7:10 YES NO

"For _____ sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the _____ of the _____ worketh death."

Note: "There are many who fail to understand the true nature of repentance. Multitudes sorrow that they have sinned and even make an outward reformation because they fear that their wrongdoing will bring suffering upon themselves. But this is not repentance in the Bible sense. They lament the suffering rather than the sin." SC 23.3

False repentance produces only an outward reformation to avoid the suffering that sin causes. True repentance will bring a change of heart, a turning away from every besetting sin and turning to God.

12. **Examples of False Repentance:** Read these stories in the Bible and write the name of the person who had false repentance.

Tell why they were sorry.

- A. Genesis 25:30-34; 27:34-36; Hebrews 12:15-17 _____ repented "when he saw that the B_____ was lost to him forever." SC 23
- B. Numbers 22:21-34 _____, "terrified by the angel standing in his pathway with drawn _____, acknowledged his guilt lest he should lose his life; but there was no genuine repentance for sin, no conversion of purpose, no abhorrence of evil." SC 23
- C. Matthew 27:3-5 _____, "after betraying his Lord, exclaimed, 'I have sinned in that I have betrayed the _____ blood.' Matthew 27:4. The confession was forced from his guilty soul by an awful sense of condemnation and a fearful looking for of judgment. The consequences that were to result to him filled him with terror, but there was no deep, heartbreaking grief in his soul, that he had betrayed the spotless Son of God and denied the Holy One of Israel." SC 23,24
- D. Exodus 9:27-30,33-35 _____ "when suffering under the judgments of God, acknowledged his sin in order to escape further punishment, but returned to his defiance of Heaven as soon as the plagues were stayed." SC 24

"These all lamented the results of sin, but **did not sorrow for the sin itself**." SC 24

Lesson 7: How to be Saved, Part 1

13. **Examples of True Repentance:** Read these stories in the Bible and write the name of the person who had true repentance and tell why they were sorry.

- A. Matthew 26:75 _____ wept bitterly because he denied Christ and he never denied Him again, but instead did the opposite. He confessed him boldly.
- B. Psalms 32 and 51 _____'s prayer after his fall, "illustrates the nature of true sorrow for sin. His repentance was **sincere** and **deep**. There was no effort to palliate his guilt; no desire to escape the judgment threatened, inspired his prayer. David saw the enormity of his transgression; he saw the defilement of his soul; he loathed his sin. It was not for pardon only that he prayed, but for **purity of heart**. He longed for the joy of holiness – to be **restored to harmony and communion with God**." SC 24
- C. Luke 18:13,14 The _____ "felt that he had transgressed against God, that he was sinful and polluted. ... He knew that he had no merit to commend him to God, and in utter self-despair he cried, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner.' He did not compare himself with others. Overwhelmed with a sense of guilt, he stood as if alone in God's presence. His only desire was for pardon and peace, his only plea was the mercy of God. And he was blessed." COL 151

14. Who gives us repentance? Acts 5:30-31 _____

"The _____ of our fathers raised up _____, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. _____ hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a _____, for to give _____ to Israel, and _____ of sins."

Note: "A repentance such as this, is beyond the reach of our own power to accomplish; **it is obtained only from Christ**, who ascended up on high and has given gifts unto men." SC 25.1

"Just here is a point on which many may err, and hence they fail of receiving the help that Christ desires to give them. They think that they cannot come to Christ unless they **first** repent, and that repentance prepares for the forgiveness of their sins. It is true that repentance does precede the forgiveness of sins; for it is only the broken and contrite heart that will feel the need of a Saviour. But **must the sinner wait till he has repented before he can come to Jesus?** Is repentance to be made an obstacle between the sinner and the Saviour? SC 26.1

"The Bible does not teach that the sinner must repent before he can heed the invitation of Christ, 'Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.' Matthew 11:28. **It is the virtue that goes forth from Christ, that leads to genuine repentance**. Peter made the matter clear in his statement to the Israelites when he said, 'Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.' Acts 5:31. **We can no more repent without the Spirit of Christ to awaken the conscience than we can be pardoned without Christ**." SC 26.2

15. What leads us to repentance? Romans 2:4 "Or despisest thou the riches of his _____ and forbearance and _____; not knowing that the _____ of God leadeth thee to _____?"

Lesson 7: How to be Saved, Part 1

Note: "Christ is the source of every right impulse. He is the only one that can implant in the heart enmity against sin. Every desire for truth and purity, every conviction of our own sinfulness, is an evidence that His Spirit is moving upon our hearts. SC 26.3

"Jesus has said, 'I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me.' John 12:32. **Christ must be revealed to the sinner as the Saviour dying for the sins of the world;** and as we behold the Lamb of God upon the cross of Calvary, the mystery of redemption begins to unfold to our minds and **the goodness of God leads us to repentance.** In dying for sinners, **Christ manifested a love that is incomprehensible;** and as the sinner beholds this love, **it softens the heart, impresses the mind, and inspires contrition in the soul.** SC 26.4

"It is true that men sometimes become ashamed of their sinful ways, and give up some of their evil habits, before they are conscious that they are being drawn to Christ. But whenever they make an effort to reform, from a sincere desire to do right, **it is the power of Christ that is drawing them.** An influence of which they are unconscious works upon the soul, and the conscience is quickened, and the outward life is amended. And **as Christ draws them to look upon His cross,** to behold Him whom their sins have pierced, the commandment comes home to the conscience. The wickedness of their life, the deep-seated sin of the soul, is revealed to them. **They begin to comprehend something of the righteousness of Christ,** and exclaim, 'What is sin, that it should require such a sacrifice for the redemption of its victim? Was all this love, all this suffering, all this humiliation, demanded, that we might not perish, but have everlasting life?' SC 27.1

"The **sinner may resist** this love, **may refuse to be drawn to Christ;** but **if he does not resist he will be drawn to Jesus;** a knowledge of the plan of salvation will lead him to the foot of the cross in repentance for his sins, which have caused the sufferings of God's dear Son." SC 27.2

16. When should we repent?

2 Corinthians 6:2 Right _____

Hebrews 3:7,8 _____

Note: "If you see your sinfulness, **do not wait to make yourself better.** How many there are who think they are not good enough to come to Christ. Do you expect to become better through your own efforts? 'Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.' Jeremiah 13:23. There is help for us only in God. **We must not wait** for stronger persuasions, for better opportunities, or for holier tempers. We can do nothing of ourselves. We must come to Christ just as we are." SC 31.1

17. What is the warning against trifling with sin? Proverbs 5:22,23

If we fool around with sin, we will be _____ with the _____ of our sins like a fly in a spider's web.

Note: "Beware of procrastination. **Do not put off the work of forsaking your sins and seeking purity of heart through Jesus.** Here is where thousands upon thousands have erred to their eternal loss. I will not here dwell upon the shortness and uncertainty of life; but there is a **terrible danger** – a danger not sufficiently understood – in delaying to yield to the pleading voice of God's Holy Spirit, in **choosing to live in sin;** for such this delay really is. Sin, however small it may be esteemed, can be indulged in only at the peril of infinite loss. **What we do not overcome, will overcome us and work out our destruction.** SC 32.2

"Adam and Eve persuaded themselves that in so small a matter as eating of the forbidden fruit there

Lesson 7: How to be Saved, Part 1

could not result such terrible consequences as God had declared. But this small matter was the transgression of God's immutable and holy law, and **it separated man from God** and opened the floodgates of death and untold woe upon our world. Age after age there has gone up from our earth a continual cry of mourning, and the whole creation groaneth and travaileth together in pain as a consequence of man's disobedience. Heaven itself has felt the effects of his rebellion against God.

Calvary stands as a memorial of the amazing sacrifice required to atone for the transgression of the divine law. Let us not regard sin as a trivial thing. SC 33.1

"**Every** act of transgression, **every** neglect or rejection of the grace of Christ, **is reacting upon yourself**; it is **hardening the heart**, depraving the will, **benumbing the understanding**, and not only making you **less inclined** to yield, but **less capable** of yielding, to the tender pleading of God's Holy Spirit. SC 33.2

"Many are quieting a troubled conscience with the thought that they can change a course of evil when they choose; that they can trifle with the invitations of mercy, and yet be again and again impressed. They think that after doing despite to the Spirit of grace, after casting their influence on the side of Satan, in a moment of terrible extremity they can change their course. But this is not so easily done. The experience, the education, of a lifetime, has so **thoroughly molded the character** that few then desire to receive the image of Jesus. SC 33.3

"Even **one** wrong trait of character, **one** sinful desire, **persistently cherished**, will eventually neutralize **all** the power of the gospel. **Every** sinful indulgence **strengthens the soul's aversion to God**. The man who manifests an infidel hardihood, or a stolid indifference to divine truth, is but reaping the **harvest** of that which he has himself sown. **In all the Bible there is not a more fearful warning against trifling with evil than the words of the wise man** that the sinner 'shall be holden with the cords of his sins.' Proverbs 5:22." SC 34.1

18. What is one difference between the way God looks at things and the way we look at things? 1 Samuel 16:7

"But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look _____ on his countenance, or on the _____ of his stature; because I have _____ him: for the Lord _____ not as man seeth; for man looketh on the _____ appearance, but the Lord looketh on the _____."

Note: All we can see is the outward appearance, the actions and words, the look on the countenance, but God can see to the very root of the thoughts and emotions. He not only knows what we did or said, but he also knows exactly why we did it. We can hide things from others, but we can not hide any thing from God.

"'Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart' – the human heart, with its conflicting emotions of joy and sorrow; the wandering, wayward heart, which is the abode of so much impurity and deceit. 1 Samuel 16:7. **He knows its motives, its very intents and purposes. Go to Him** with your soul all stained as it is. Like the psalmist, throw its chambers open to the all-seeing eye, exclaiming, 'Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.' Psalm 139: 23, 24." SC 34.3