

UNTO THE END

Sep/Oct 2006
Volume 1, Issue 4

“BUT HE THAT SHALL ENDURE UNTO THE END, THE SAME SHALL BE
SAVED” (MTH. 24:13)

Things that Accompany Salvation

“But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.” Heb. 6:9.

In this issue of *Unto the End* we are going to expose the popular lie and false doctrine of “just believe”. Let me further define what is meant here. Ask most born again believers what it means to be a Christian and how to make it to heaven and one will unanimously hear the phrase, “just believe”. What is meant by this is that if a person mentally acknowledges that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross and rose again from the dead and through his blood there is forgiveness of sins, then no matter what else he does, he will make it to heaven. Further, error is added on top of this error when this false doctrine is accompanied by the “Don’t add to the cross” lie (see *Unto the End* Volume 1 Issue 2). Add these two errors together and what does one have? A milk toast, weak, powerless “Christianity” that is full of sinners that have taken the name of Christ and spout such damnable things like, “Not perfect, just forgiven” and other such nonsense. This doctrine breeds apathy and sin in a Christian’s walk and will, when fully conceived bring about death. There will be many that say, “Lord, Lord, what do you mean we aren’t getting in?” Before we continue I would like to take a moment and make a clarification. Before a person is born again, he can do no amount of “good

Gathering of the Saints Fellowship

970.214.0375

www.gatheringofthesaints.com

works” to earn the right to be saved. This is what is meant in Ephesians 2: 1-10; People are not born again because they are “good” and God looks down on the “good” ones and decides they have earned the right to be saved. The Bible says we are saved by faith and grace, NOT of works that we have done. So it is true, a person is born again when he sees the need for a saviour and then acknowledges that Saviour to be Jesus Christ. A person becomes born again when he repents of his sins and calls upon the name of the Lord; the Word says all that call upon the name of the Lord will be saved. Was not this Paul’s answer to the Corinthian Jailor’s question of, “What must I do to be saved?” Paul told him, “**And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**” (Ac. 16:31). So to be born again, to pass from an unbeliever to a born again believer, it is by grace and faith. The problem is most church folk are taught that after this is done, there is nothing more to do and any attempts to be holy or obey God is called “earning your salvation” and is preached against. But what does the Bible say? Let us now turn to the Word of God. Amen.

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the

dead, thou shalt be saved.” Ro. 10:9.

Everybody’s favorite scripture; it seems to say that all one has to do is believe. True, Paul is writing to born again believers here and it does appear that Paul himself is contradicting what was written in the opening paragraph of this article. Not so fast however; let’s read the next verse:

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Ro. 10:10.

Paul defines to a Christian the phrase “believe in thine heart”: one believes in thine heart UNTO righteousness. In other words, true faith produces righteousness. Let me talk about this word for a moment. Another popular lie is when Christians, referring to themselves, say things like “All our righteousness is as filthy rags” and “there is none righteous no not one”. These things are said by Christians to use as an excuse for sin. After all, they reason, the Bible does say nobody is good and any righteousness we can do is as filthy rags before the Lord; therefore, why bother, let’s just go ahead and sin, nobody is perfect and besides, I believe in Jesus. Oh dear God, this is damnable indeed!! The phrases such as “righteousness is as filthy rags” and “there is none righteous, no not one” are references to those that have NOT been born again. It is true, any righteousness an unbeliever does is filthy before the Lord and there is no unbeliever that is righteous or good. These statements are NOT in reference to born again believers. In fact the Bible does tell us what happens when Christians begin doing the things that unbelievers do:

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us and offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them.” Eph. 5:1-7. (Emphasis mine).

Paul, writing to born again believers lists some sins that are not to be named once among Christians (notice the reference to foolish talking/jesting-this means God has not called anybody to be a Christian Comedian). Paul goes on to say that this is what children of disobedience do and because of this, the wrath of God is upon them. He concludes this exhortation to the church by saying, since unbelievers do these things, and the wrath of God is upon them for it,

Christians better not be partakers with them. He didn’t tell them, “Ah, its okay, we’re not perfect, just forgiven”!! He told them, don’t do these things or the wrath of God will be on you too!! True faith produces work. What is work? As defined in previous newsletters, work is anything a Christian cuts out or adds to his

life to conform to the Word of God. Believers are supposed to be Christ like, and to do this means one has to be willing to stop sinning as God reveals different sins to one in his or her Christian walk. Amen. These are the things that “accompany salvation”. Let’s continue:

“Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.” Jude 21.

In this passage, Jude is telling the Church that each member of the Body of Christ is to keep themselves in the love of Jesus. He is not saying, “just believe and don’t worry about it, we can’t help sinning anyway”. Where did Jude get such a notion? Jesus Christ:

“As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.” Jn. 15:9-10.

Jesus didn’t say, “Well, you believe in me, so this is good enough...and please don’t try to do anything in the Bible to be holy, that’s adding to the cross...just believe”. NO! He commands the Church to stay in His love (just like Jude) and then even tells one how to do it: by obeying His commands!! Praise the Lord! Born again believers saved by faith and grace, not of works that any should boast are commanded by Jesus, Jude, Paul, Peter and the like to keep God’s commandments!

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;” Jn. 8:31

Notice that Jesus is speaking in the passage to those that BELIEVED on Him. What did he tell them? He told them that even though they believe in Him, He only will consider them disciples if they continue in His Word!! How does all of this stack up with, “Just believe”. Let’s see what Paul has to say about this:

“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.” Tit. 3:8.

One Spirit, one message; Paul tells Titus to tell the born again believers that have believed on Jesus, to be careful to maintain good works, not “just believe”!! Thank you Jesus for the truth!

“Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he that done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...” 2Cor. 5:9-11.

Again, Paul, writing to Christians, those that have believed tells them to labour to make sure they are accepted

of God!! He puts an exclamation point on this by saying that since we know the terror of the Lord and that judgment is coming, let's make sure we are labouring to enter into our rest! How does this stack up with "just believe"???? The demons believe; they have a mental cognizance of who God is!

"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

Ja. 2:19.

Here's where the "just believe" lie puts a person on par with demons! The devils believe, but it's not going to save their souls. Christians are commanded to believe unto the saving of the soul; put another way, true faith produces work (which we have already defined as cutting out the world as God makes His Word known in a Christian's walk.).

"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" Ja. 2:20.

Paul then goes on to explain how Abraham believed and his faith produced work or obedience to God! Jesus said Christians are to keep themselves in the love of God and this is done by keeping His commandments (Jn. 15:9-10). Rahab believed, and it produced work. She did not know a lot about God, but believed that He was the true God and that Jericho was in trouble. From this, she hid the spies and also, in obedience, tied the scarlet line outside her window and made sure that she and her family were in the apartment in the wall when Jericho was attacked. This is an example of "things that accompany salvation". Praise the Lord.

Without listing each letter to the seven churches in Revelation, why would Jesus Christ write to born again believers telling them to repent or they would be in trouble? Because making it into heaven once a person is born again is more than merely saying, "I was saved once". Satan isn't going to come to a believer and say, "Jesus Christ isn't really God, and He never died on the cross," etc. Satan is going to use a different tactic with a born again believer; he's going to do what he did to Eve.

"Now the serpent was more subtil that any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.

And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said,..." Gen. 3:1.

Notice Satan did not go to the woman and say, "You know, there is no God." He knew Eve talked with God, communed with God and he could not convince her God wasn't real. So he used a different tactic, he said, "Are you sure you heard God correctly?" This statement shows that he is conceding that there is God. He wasn't going to argue with her about that. But instead, he chose to try and make her doubt what God had said. This is a device of the Devil. He does this to Christians. He knows he's not going to get a Christian to doubt the existence of God; so he tries to get a Christian to get into sin. To do this, Satan comes up with lies like, "Just believe", "Don't add to the cross", "Don't try and earn your salvation". But Paul said that a Christian is supposed to labour to be accepted of God!!! Amen. Dear man or woman of God, please hear me out. If a Christian believes in this lie of "just believe" or such like, he is going to be in sin and not really think much about it. He is even going to be lied to and told that he can't help it and God understands. But can one get any of this

from the scriptures (12:30) God will judge us (people shall God's people is a fearful thing that fall into the hands of the
 following Satan (Heb 10:31) Let therefore, of. Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with
 reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." Heb. 12:28-29. How does this
 "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you a evil heart of unbelief, falling away from
 saying the living God, but exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be
 hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the
 beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;" Heb. 12:14
 I pray that blind beginning of our confidence that God's people will learn the lesson of grace and walk in power, holding in
 Paul's view of King's Church to be on guard against Satan. Will you say that a Christian can say that sin is okay.
 Sin deceives a believer into thinking he can partake in it with no punishment, after all, he reasons, he is born again.
 But this is damnable! God is not going to accept any Christian into heaven that died in sin; that died with sin
 having dominion over him or her. Paul also encourages Christians to continue in the faith here. Let's look at one
 more warning of what happens if, after a person is born again, he does not continue in the love of God (being
 obedient to His commandments):

"Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." Ro. 11:22.

Let us not be like those in the Laodicean Church that were lukewarm and warned that they would be spewed out of Christ. Can one make it to heaven if he is out of Christ? No! Let us rather be obedient to the truth; let us walk in holiness for without holiness no man shall see God (Heb. 12:14). Let us not fail the grace of God. Can a Christian fail God's grace? Yes, the writer of Hebrews warns that God's people can fail God's grace. "Hebrews was written for the Hebrew Christian" some say. Those that say such things should tear it out of their Bibles! Lord have mercy. On the contrary, Paul pleads with the Church to continue in the grace of God (Acts 13:43). If he has to plead for Christians to continue in the grace of God, then conversely, it is also true that a Christian can choose not to continue in the grace of God. Grace teaches the Church that each individual Christian is to deny ungodliness, and worldly lusts and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present life (Tit. 2:11-12). Amen.

Let's list one more passage to complete this message:

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" 1Pe. 4:17-18.

Please note that according to this passage, the righteous are scarcely saved! Judgment begins in God's house; those that have been born again but are dwelling in ungodliness will not dwell in The House of God forever; rather, they shall face fiery judgment that shall devour the adversaries. Where shall they appear? Not with the Lord, walking in white because they will have proven themselves unworthy (Rev. 3:1-5)

Gathering of the Saints
Fellowship
5914 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45224

Phone:

MO Bro. Brad 314.420.6358

OH Bro. Ben 513.474.7021

PR Bro. Oswald 787.420.6522

WY Bro. Jim 970.214.0375

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.gatheringofthesaints.com

Email:

gatheringofthesaints@gmail.com

Gathering of the Saints
5914 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45224



Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code