

Elijah project school of ministry

Module 3:biblical worldview

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Week 3: is salvation something that can be earned?

Is Satan real?

This week we will be covering the subject of

1. Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned

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Jesus fulfilled the law he did not come to abolish the law but came to fulfill it. Before Christ people's sins had to be paid for with animal sacrifices to God. Christ did not take the law out of effect. We see Paul in Romans 7:7-8 says nay, I had not known sin but by the law for I had not known lust except the law had said thou shalt not covet. We see that the law gives us an understanding of what is sin but the requirements of reconciliation through the law have been met through Christ. Therefore our salvation is not something that can be earned through the sacrificial customs of the law because Christ fulfilled this role

this is why the bible tells us if we sin we have an advocate Jesus Christ 1st John 2:1

According to the majority ,the vast majority of those who attend church regularly, salvation is earned through many different ways

how does one obtain salvation

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Acts 2:36-39

New American Standard Bible

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what are we to do?”

38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

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Let me break this down for you

- 1. Peter preached the gospel of Jesus and the crucifixion**
- 2. The gospel is said to have “pierced” the heart of those who heard**
- 3. They responded with men and brethren what do we do now. Why? Because they now knew the truth that without Jesus hell was their destination. They knew that everything before this moment didn’t matter**

I because of their response seeing they had a choice reject the teaching of irresistible grace

Irresistible Grace is a Calvinist doctrine that asserts the saving grace of God, once extended to the elect, cannot be resisted or rejected, leading them inevitably to salvation.

- 4. Peter answers repent and be baptized.
What is Repentance?**

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The word repent means to change your mind, to turn away from sin and turn towards God.

Repentance is the work of faith demonstrated by baptism in water as a public declaration of faith and living out your life by the truth of Gods word.

- 5. He said this promise is for you and your children and all who are a far off as many as the lord our God should call**

John 6:44 no man cometh unto me unless the one who sent me draws him and I will raise him up in the last day

We don't convince, persuade, or save anyone. It is their decision at the point that the father draws their heart and they repent that they are saved and receive the Holy Spirit.

We are saved by faith

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Ephesians 1:13 in him you also after listening to the message of truth the gospel of your salvation having also believed you were sealed in him with the Holy Spirit of promise.

Ephesians 2:8-9 for by grace you have been saved through faith and this is not of yourselves it is the gift of God (9) not a result of works so that no one may boast. (10) for we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them

We see that salvation comes through hearing the gospel, believing the gospel, and repenting of our sins because true faith produces the action of repentance.

And the sealing of the Holy Spirit as our spirit dies and we receive the Holy Spirit of God.

we put our faith in Jesus and the work on the cross that through his blood our sins can be forgiven. We repent of our sins and submit ourselves to the lordship of Jesus Christ

We on our own free will and accord cannot come to salvation of God. only by the drawing of God are we given the revelation of Jesus Christ and resurrected on the last day

On the other hand We do possess the ability as we said in last weeks lesson to acknowledge jesus as a historical figure but without divine encounter we cannot see him as the son of Go d

Romans 10:9 says- that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as lord and believe in your heart (have faith) that God raised him from the dead you will be saved (10) for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

John 3:16 for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life

This doesn't say anything about works why didn't Jesus mention this? Because he knew that works would be the genuine result of salvation

The apostle James would suggest that faith without works is dead what would this mean?

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James 2:14-26 New American Standard Bible

Faith and Works

¹⁴What use is it, my brothers *and sisters*, if someone says he has faith, but he has no works? Can ^[a]that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, ^[b]be warmed and be filled," yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? ¹⁷In the same way, faith also, if it has no works, is ^[c]dead, *being* by itself.

Lets look at how Jesus explains the salvation experience

John 3:1-7 New American Standard Bible

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews;

2 this man came to Jesus at night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

3 Jesus responded and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

- Why did Jesus respond this way because he knew the thoughts of the heart of nicodemus (God is omniscient all knowing)

4 Nicodemus *said to Him, "How can a person be born when he is old? He cannot enter his mother's womb a second time and be born, can he?"

- We see nicodemus ask in a way to say how can I in my own ability achieve this "how can I climb back into my mothers womb" (legalism, earning salvation
- Jesus used this analogy to show that our placement in birth is the same physically and spiritually
- While we are present our birth is given to us and carried out by an outside power

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5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

6 That which has been born of the flesh is flesh, and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’

- This is not water baptism many people use this to justify the salvation through baptism doctrines in the church
- Water being through natural birth when the woman’s water breaks we are born
- And spiritually we must be born again the Hebrew phrase says born from above
- Life in the same way is given to us as a gift not earned you did not earn your birth in the physical and you do not earn your birth in the spiritual

We don’t work for our salvation but rather from it. We were created new in Jesus for good works not from good works

2. Is Satan real?

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His first mention in the Bible is as the serpent in the garden of Eden the Hebrew word used here for serpent is nachash

And it means accuser

The first perspective we gain of Satan from the Bible is that he is a manipulator as he manipulates Adam and even into giving into sin through persuading them to question the words of God

Did God really say? This questions should've arose red flags as God did not just simply say but rather God commanded he has downplayed the severity of Gods commands from the beginning until now

This famous phrase shows many different things but what sticks out the most is his questioning of the words spoken by God in a way that would deviate from the severity of it being a command over just mere words

If my dad said "hey boy don't do that" that isn't a negotiation that is a command

We see Satan works in opposition to Gods commands he's defiant of authority we see he has no reverence at all only evil intent to persuade mankind from the grace of God

Satan in the garden is given a curse that on his belly he would crawl all his days and dust he would eat that God would put enmity between the seed of the woman and the seed of satan

This would be the reason the world was against israel then and this is why the world is against israel now because satan is the god of this world and the opposer of gods people and there is still enmity to this day even between you and satan because you are his child

But who is Satan we could say many things

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2 Corinthians 4:4

New American Standard Bible

⁴in whose case the god of this ^[a]world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that ^[b]they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

But who is Satan the one we often times attribute all our issues to is he a real person or a being is he a spiritual being with personality

Who is Satan well I'm glad you've asked were going to take it from the beginning

Satan was formerly known as Lucifer

In Luke 10:18 Jesus says " and he said to them I watched **Satan** fall from heaven like lightning

This word "Satan" used here means the adversary or accuser

As in revelation 12:10 he is called “the accuser of the brethren”

In Isaiah 14:12 how have you fallen from heaven you star of the morning son of the dawn you have been cut down to the earth you who defeated the nations (13) but you said in your heart I will ascend to heaven I will raise my throne above the stars of God and I will sit on the mount of assembled in the recesses of the north (I will ascend above the heights of the clouds I will make myself like the most high(15) never the less you will be brought down to sheol to the recesses of the pit

We see the intentions of Satan to be God but we see the destiny of Satan because of this attempt Satan is a fallen angel one who was at first highly favored and adored by God but because of his pride he fell

He wanted to lead before he could follow and this resulted in his downfall

Proverbs 16:18 says pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall

We see more of his identity in Ezekial 28:13

Ezekiel 28:13 you were in Eden, the garden of god every precious stone was your covering the ruby the topaz and the diamond the beryl the onyx and the jasper the lapis lazuli the turquoise and the emerald and the gold the workmanship of your settings and sockets was in you on the day you were created they were prepared,(14) you were the anointed cherub who covers and I placed you there you were on the holy mountain of God you walked in the midst of the stones of fire (15) you were blameless in your ways form the way you were created until unrighteousness was found in you (16) by the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence and you sinned therefore I have cast you as profane from the mountain of God and I have destroyed you you covering cherub from the midst of the stones of fire (17) your heart was haughty because of you Beauty you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor I threw you to the ground I put you before kings that they may see you.

Satan really was an angel

who had a personality

who had beauty

who had the ability to stand in the presence of God

Who had intelligence

But allowed pride to fill his heart

He had desire

He had intention

He had motive

And he exercised his will

Satan and or the devil is absolutely real and he roams the earth to and fro according to the book of job chapter 2:2

1st peter 5:8 your adversary the devil as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour

The good news is although he's roams the earth he's a dog on a leash with as much power as the lord gives him and as much influence as we give him in our lives

Matthew 4:1-11

New American Standard Bible

The Temptation of Jesus

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Devil here in greek- strong's 1228 diabolos meaning slanderous and falsely accusing

He is the false accuser and the slanderer

2 And after He had fasted for forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.

3 And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

- The tempter spoke he's always running his mouth he has a voice (take up the shield of faith)

4 But He answered and said, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes out of the mouth of God.'"

5 Then the devil *took Him along into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple,

6 and he *said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written:

‘He will give His angels orders concerning You’;

and

‘On their hands they will lift You up,

So that You do not strike Your foot against a stone.’”

- **The devil knows scripture and you don’t study your bible?**
- **The world wants to silence the voice of the church (scripture is offensive)**

7 Jesus said to him, “on the other hand, it is written: ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

- **Jesus hit him with the context (2 Timothy 2:15)
the devil is a liar and a manipulator**
- **The boastful pride of life (if you are the son of God jump)**

8 Again, the devil *took Him along to a very high mountain and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

9 and he said to Him, “All these things I will give You, if You fall down and [c]worship me.”

10 Then Jesus *said to him, “Go away, Satan! For it is written: ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’”

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