

THANKFULNESS

Manvel Bible Chapel Family Bible Hour – 27 November 2022

Attention Step:

SHOW SLIDE -- Two Questions related to thankfulness

- Have any of us experienced unthankfulness from someone we helped?
- Have any of us ever been unthankful to someone who helped us?

Introductory thoughts:

SHOW SLIDE – INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

- Paul indicates that unthankfulness characterizes the wicked.
 - Romans 1:21 -- “... when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”
 - 2 Timothy 3:1-4 -- This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, **unthankful**, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;...”
- The Lord Jesus indicated that He abhors false thankfulness.
 - He described a Pharisee and a publican -- Romans 18:10-14
 - The Pharisee proudly thanked God for his own righteousness earned by his own good works
 - The publican prayed “God be merciful to me a sinner.”
 - Jesus said that the publican, not the Pharisee, was justified, adding
 - Luke 18:14 -- “...for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”

Overview of Lesson

SHOW SLIDE OF OVERVIEW

1. Christ Redeems His People by His blood
2. However, Christians still sin
3. How does God Deal with you when you sin?

Body of Lesson:

(click to highlight POINT 1)

1. Christ Redeems His People by His blood

(click to highlight POINT 1a.)

- a. He suffered punishment at the hands of His Father to redeem His people

--1 Peter 2:24 -- Who his own self **bare our sins in his own body** on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

--2 Corinthians 5:21 -- “For he hath **made him to be sin for us**, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

-DOES THIS MAKE YOU THANKFUL!!!?

(click to highlight POINT 1b.)

-b. His people love and follow Him

--1 Corinthians 16:22 -- ”If any man **love not the Lord Jesus Christ**, let him be **Anathema** [cursed] **Maranatha.**”

--John 10:27 -- My sheep hear my voice, and **I know them**, and **they follow me**

--Matthew 16:24 -- Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and **follow me.**

(click to highlight POINT 1c.)

-c. A person’s failure to follow Christ is often betrayed by his or her tongue

--James 1:26 -- If any man among you seem to be religious, and **bridleth not his tongue**, but deceiveth his own heart, **this man’s religion is vain.**

(click to highlight POINT 1d.)

-d. God knows His own but we sometimes can’t differentiate saved from lost because Christians sometimes yield to sin.

(click to highlight POINT 2 & 2a.)

2. However Christians Still Sin

-a. Some believe that true Christians will not sin.

--However, this is inconsistent with the fact that God “chastens” those he loves as “sons” when they sin.

---Hebrews 12:6-8 -- 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every **son** whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 **But if ye be without chastisement, whereof ALL** [sons] **are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.**

(click to highlight POINT 2a. CAUTION!)

---CAUTION!!! -- Sinning should not be a Christian’s normal pursuit. According to this, **a professing Christian whom God does not chastise is LOST!!!.**

(click to highlight POINT 2a. --apostle Paul troubled!)

--The apostle Paul admitted being constantly troubled by the temptation to sin that his flesh produced. Notice the present tense Paul uses in describing this problem.

---Romans 7:14-25 ¶ For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. 16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. 17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelled in me. 18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

(click to highlight POINT 2a -- when you sin)

--When you sin, does the indwelling Holy Spirit cause you to hate that sin and run from it? Or do you think you have a free pass to sin?

--**ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR GOD'S CHASTENING!!!?**

----It's designed to draw you closer to the Savior who died.

(click to highlight POINT 2b -- Can you lose salvation)

-Some believe Christians can lose their salvation by sinning.

--One Scripture that is used to support this conclusion is:

---Hebrews 6:4-6 4. -- For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

--Notice in verses 7-8 the analogy of soil which is used to contrast true believers with unsaved people who have only "tasted" the water of the Word without truly drinking it in. The unsaved are likened to dry

hardened soil upon which the rain falls and runs right off. These people are **“TASTING”** but not drinking. They don't have the Holy Spirit and don't bear His good fruit.

---Hebrews 6:7-8 -- 7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: 8 But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

--These two kinds of soil can be present in the same field just as two kinds of professors can be present in the same local church.

---**DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT'S FRUIT IN YOUR LIFE MAKE YOU TRULY THANKFUL!!!?**

---**CAN OTHERS SEE IT TOO AND BE THANKFUL!!!?**

(click to highlight POINT 2b -- Can you lose salvation--Scripture says “no”)

--Scripture, denies that a truly saved person can be lost.

---Those who are saved **HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**. Thus it can't end!

----John 10:27-30 -- 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one.

---**DOES THIS MAKE YOU THANKFUL!!!?**

--Truly saved people who sin do not lose their position in Christ by whose sacrifice they are redeemed and cleansed.

(click to highlight POINT 2b -- More scriptures proving believer's security)

---1 John 1:7-10 -- But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8 ¶ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

--The apostle John wrote to his children in the faith (Christians) that Jesus Christ is still the advocate of saved people even if they sin. Those sins were placed on His account as He died on the cross.

---1 John 2:1 -- My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

---ARE YOU THANKFUL THAT JESUS CHRIST REMAINS YOUR ADVOCATE (EVEN AFTER YOU YIELD TO SIN)!!!!?

(click to highlight POINT 3)

3. How does God Deal with you when you sin?

-Does He cause you to desire to never sin that way again?

-Does He allow you to convince yourself that your sin wasn't really so bad?

(click to highlight POINT 3 -- LIKE David?)

-Though David sinned many times, God describes him as "a man after His own heart."

--Acts 13:22-23 -- 22 And when he had removed him [Saul as king], he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will. 23 Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:

-What was the difference between David and Saul?

--David desired God's honor above all

---He battled Goliath to vindicate God's name

----1 Samuel 17: 26 -- And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

---When faced up with His sin he acknowledged it as sin

----after his sin with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah

-----2 Samuel 12:13 -- 13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

----after numbering the children of Israel

-----2 Samuel 24:1 -- And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

(click to highlight POINT 3 -- Like Saul?)

--Whereas Saul made excuses for his disobedience regarding God's command to destroy all the Amalekites and their livestock

---But Saul saved Agag their king and the best of the livestock.

---When God sent Samuel to face him up with this he made excuses

that he had saved the best of the livestock to be an offering to the Lord (yeah right!)

-Does He cause you to cry out to Him for forgiveness as David did? Or do you make excuses like Saul?

--Psalm 51:1-4 -- 1 **Have mercy upon me, O God,** according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 **Wash me thoroughly** from mine iniquity, and **cleanse me from my sin.** 3 **For I acknowledge my transgressions:** and my sin is ever before me. 4 **Against thee, thee only, have I sinned,** and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

(click to highlight SUMMARY)

SUMMARY

-Nothing in the Universe can cancel the eternal salvation and forgiveness that Christ has purchased for his people

The general direction of life for saved people is to love & follow Christ

However, though the penalty of sin has been cleared from a Christian's account, sinful desires are still present in the flesh and Christians yield to them from time to time. Such yielding always generates sorrow and correction by the Lord.

The Lord's correction elicits repentance from the true Christian.

For all of these things the Christian experiences great thankfulness. Those who don't aren't Christians.

A person who is not chastised when he or she sins is a false professor.

-This distinguishing mark becomes the criteria to be evaluated when situations requiring discipline arise

DISPLAY CLOSING COMMENTS SLIDE

Closing Comments

NOTE: Items associated with this lesson can be obtained at the link below

<http://lightingdarkness.com/thanksgiving/>