We partake of some blessings of the abundant life that Christ promised, when we obey 1 Corinthians 13.

We enjoy a healthy happy marital relationship.

How many more blessings we miss because we do not obey God's word, and live in the fear of God.

4.08.07

Inheritance by Works

1. **GRACE:**

2. Christianity is distinct from all world religions in that the core base foundational stone of Christianity is sealed in

God's grace based man.

That man can do nothing to earn God's favor; he simply does not possess any favor earning abilities with God, neither can it be found in all the universe, so that he might purchase those abilities in order to earn favor with God.

Man is completely and totally dead spiritually; man is in an impossible position!!!

Therefore God, brings salvation to man from without the universe, and offers it without price, to him who will receive it.

Jesus Christ came as a human being so that He could dwell in our place and pay the penalty for sin and **on the basis of what He has done** we could be saved. It is not based on works.

A core consistent message throughout Scripture is that salvation/justification is based on GRACE; nothing is done to earn justification, and there is nothing we do in order to keep salvation.

Otherwise salvation is based on our works and not on the clear message of Scripture -GRACE-

1. **Antinomian:**

antinomian : antinomians : adjective
1 : of or relating to the view that Christians are released by grace from the obligation of observing the moral law

2 God freely gives salvation, then there is no motivation to **live a moral life?**

3 If that's the case, then people will go bad however they want to live!

However with the free gift comes responsibility, this is where works begin, and also the blessings.

Neither the giving nor the retention of the free gift is based on works,

It is your responsible with it, you lose the benefit of the blessings of the gift.

It's like the person who purchased a ticket on a cruise, and didn't read the benefits that go along with it. He just brought a bag of peanut butter sandwiches and stayed in his room the whole time.

That would be analogous to the person that didn't take serious reading and understanding the Bible—The Manual—God's instructions for receiving the blessings, both for time and all of eternity.

2. **Answering the antinomian charge:**

a. There are two aspects that have to be kept separate though they are related.

1.) Salvation **Salvation is a free gift**

2.) The spiritual life and spiritual growth

are based on following and implementing the various mandates, commandments and prohibitions that are given in God's Word.

Rewards are the motivation for continuing in the spiritual life.

b. **John reminds us of this point in the closing chapter of this book:**

Revelation 22:6–17 (NKJV)
6 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.
7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."
8 And I, John, saw these things and heard them. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
9 Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."
10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

Individual Responsibility:

11 He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."
12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and **My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.**
13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

He is everything; God is the ultimate orientation of every human being, everything begins and ends with Him.

He states this because it affirms His own authority to bring judgment.

Examples

Rewards are for those who work:

Matthew 10:41 (NKJV)
41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a **prophet's reward**. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a **righteous man's reward.**

Matthew 6:2 (NKJV)
2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, **they have their reward.**

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NKJV)
10 For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ** that each one may receive **the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.**

1 Corinthians 3:10–15 (NKJV)
10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds it.
11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
12 Now if any man builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
13 each one's **WORK** will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test each **one's WORK**, of what sort it is.
14 If anyone's **WORK** which he has built on it endures, **he will receive a reward.**
15 If anyone's **WORK** is burned, **he will suffer loss**; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The problem of sin was solved at the cross, when we believed.

Sin is no longer the issue.

Romans 6:4–8 (NKJV)
4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.
6 Just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:
7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered;
8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin."

Justification/salvation, is a free gift; without charge and without price and without effort

Access to the holy city, and the tree of life are only for those who know and obey God's word:

14 Blessed are those who **do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.**

Not equivalent to entering heaven.

Some of those who live outside of the New Jerusalem are going to be those believers who did not have any rewards at the judgment seat at Christ.

They are not going to have the privilege of living in the New Jerusalem having access to many of the blessings and privileges there.

Revelation 2:7 (NKJV)
7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life,** which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Revelation 22:1 (NKJV)
1 Now he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
2 In the midst of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

The new earth already here

Revelation 21:1 (NKJV)
1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

Revelation 21:8 (NKJV)
8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Justification/salvation

Believers positive to doctrine

Believers negative to doctrine

Revelation 21:20–26 (NKJV)
20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprasus; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.
21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.
22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.
23 The city had no need of the sun or moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light.
24 The nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.
25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).
26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.

An open-ended list not intended to be definitive of the worst sins.

But it only describes those believers who chose not to obey God's directions for the maturing believer, so that he would obtain this eternal inheritance.

15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Standing guard because not everyone has right to the privilege of inheritance

Revelation 21:12 (NKJV)
12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve **angels at the gates**; and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NKJV)
9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not **inherit the kingdom** of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers,
10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, will **inherit the kingdom** of God.
11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Ephesians 5:5 (NKJV)
5 For this you know, that fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any **inheritance in the kingdom** of Christ and God.

Galatians 5:19–21 (NKJV)
19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,
20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfishness, dissensions, heresies,
21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like, of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not **inherit the kingdom** of God.

18 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."
17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of the liverty.

The judgment of all unsaved has already taken place back in:

Revelation 20:12–14 (NKJV)
12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.
13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.
14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

3.