

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Grace and Peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;... 2 Peter 1:2

We Are Saved

Pastor Anthony Trezza

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

- There is a stark contrast between perishing and eternal life
- They are opposite in every conceivable way
- Yet, they are both a place of time without end
- They are each an eternal destination

Luke 13:1 Now on the same occasion there were some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. **2** And Jesus said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were [greater] sinners than all [other] Galileans because they suffered this [fate?] **3** "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

Luke 13:4 "Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were [worse] culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem? **5** "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

- What Jesus was saying, is that both the Galileans who Pilot killed, and the 18 upon which the tower in Siloam fell on them, they did not just die, they perished.
- That is, not a single one of them was saved when they died.
- So, there are two ways the living leave this world
- They sleep, or they perish.

Regarding Jesus' Friend Lazarus:

John 11:11 ..., and after that He (Jesus) said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep."

John 11:25 Jesus said to her (Martha), "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, **26** and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

- The dead in Christ will awaken into the arms of the Lord
- The ones who perish, into eternal destruction. Lost forever without end.

Perish: *abad* (ah-vahd)- To be destroyed, to be lost.

- It is where we get the word, Abaddon from.
- Abaddon, is considered destruction personified.
- Abaddon is a demonic prince who rules over the abyss; as recorded in Revelation chapter 9

Revelation 9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. **2** He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit. **3** Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

Revelation 9:7 The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.

Revelation 9:11 They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

We Have Been Saved from the Fear of Death:

Hebrews 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, **15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.**

Vision in the Walmart Parking Lot:

1 Corinthians 15:55 "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"

- In 2004 the Great Tsunami of Sir Lanka, Thailand, and Sumatra, Killed 228,000 people in one day
- Only 1-7% of that population are known to be Christian
- Taking the higher number of 7%, that comes out to just over 15,000 who were saved when they drowned
- That means over 212,000 people perished that day.
- That is 212,000 people who woke up that day, just like every other day, and through a single catastrophic event, were cast into eternal destruction, into the belly of the earth
- They are there until that fateful day they will stand at the Great White Throne Judgement, only to be cast into the Lake of Fire for all Eternity

This is What We Have been Saved From:

- We are Saved from a place of eternal destruction
- A place we were all on our way to before Jesus saved us
- A place where all people end up who have not received Jesus as their Savior

There are Countless Tragedies where club goers ended up burning to death in a building they could not escape from:

- I am going to give each and every one of you a real shot of reality
- It is not a pretty thought
- It is not a pleasant thought
- But here it goes,
- Each and every one of those poor souls who burned to death in those night club fires, would choose to rather remain for all of eternity burning in that building here on earth, than where they found themselves after dying in that fire.

This is What We Are Saved From!

Jesus Said:

Matthew 13:41 The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, **42** and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jesus, Our Savior, mentions a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth- 5 times throughout the Gospels:

- 5 times.

Jesus, Our Lord, and Savior, also said:

Mark 9:43 "If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, **44** [where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.]

This is What We are Saved From!

- The modern church has become so cavalier
- We have warped the message of grace so as to take away every semblance of the fear of the Lord

Proverbs 9:10 *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, ...*

Wisdom: wisdom unites God, the source of all understanding, with our daily life!

We Have Lost Our Fear of God:

- Now we call Him our Main Man
- We refer to Him as our buddy, our friend, the friend of the sinner!

We Call Ourselves Saved:

- And we do not even remember what we are saved from
- Because we are still doing the same things we did before we supposedly got saved...
- Because we have lost our fear of God
- **We have replaced the fear of God with spiritual numbness and Cavelier complacency**

The Church Does Not Reverences the Things of God Like it Used To:

- We treat the things of God as common
- Our churches look like nightclubs **full of Merch**

Matthew 21:12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. **13** And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER'; but you are making it a ROBBERS' DEN."

- It used to be You knew when you were in a church, it had a sense of holiness and reverence, focusing always on the Cross
- Now if you were transported into a church and opened your eyes, you would think you were in a nightclub, or a Broadway theater
- Complete with light shows and fog machines

How About getting rid of the fog machines and crying out for the real Glory Cloud instead of settling for the imitation

We Lost our Reverence for the things of God – We Consider such things as Old Fashioned and Religious:

Malachi 1:6 " 'A son honors [his] father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Your name?'

- Let me put it to you this way:

We would not dare walk into a court room dressed down like we dress for church. God's house!

Recently our President rebuked a world leader for coming into his meeting dressed like he was going to a gym

He considered it a sign of disrespect

He considered it a sign that this leader did not recognize the seriousness of the moment

This is a sign of the times, we don't respect anything anymore, not even the things of God:

- We don't know how to honor anyone anymore, including almighty God...
- We treat God like we treat everything else

We treat Him and His house as a common thing

- And we say, He doesn't care about these things
- He is looking at our hearts
- Yes, He is, and your heart stinks with irreverence and disrespect

Jesus Addresses This Very Thing in One of His Parables:

Matthew 22:8 "Then he said to his slaves, The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. 9 'Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find [there,] invite to the wedding feast.' 10 "Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests.

Matthew 22:11 "But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes, 12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?' And the man was speechless. 13 "Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called, but few [are] chosen."

- There are numerous scriptures throughout the word of God that makes it clear God is very concerned about how we appear when in His presence
- After anointing Aarron as High Priest the first thing God did was clothe him in priestly garments
- In the book of Zechariah God commanded the filthy garments of Joshua the priest be replaced with clean priestly vestments.
- When the prodigal son returned, the very first thing his father did was clothe him with a new robe
- When Jesus comes back, He is coming back for a bride without spot or wrinkle
- Not skinny jeans and muscle shirts

➤ Or first ladies with their twins popping out

You say: "We are under liberty and not bound by the law".

Paul says,

Galatians 5:13 KJV - For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only [use] not liberty for an occasion to the flesh,...

If we are saved, let us remember what we are saved from, and let us get back to holiness!

For without holiness, no one will see the Lord...

Let us get back to honoring God and let us stop treating the things of God as common...

Let us get back to treating His house as a place of Holiness where we approach His presence with reverence!