

The Dangers of Passivity Towards Sin (Part 4):
What Was Won For Me On The Cross Of Christ?
Genesis 3:14-15; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:13-22

- Genesis 3:14-15
 - Because of the fall (sin), all of the animals were cursed, not just the serpent. The animals would now die, be used for sacrifices, be used for food, and be violent towards one another; in God's providence the animals would be used as God's creation to teach us things about God and His world. The serpent would now be used as an object lesson to remind us that Satan exists, he will/has been defeated, the results of sin, and that a great transformation happened to all of God's Creation at the fall.
 - Satan disguises himself as "familiar", "safe", "helpful", "caring", and even at times like an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:13-15). Yet his true character is seen in His true biblical description; he is a liar and no truth is in him (John 8:44); he is an accuser of the redeemed (Zechariah 3:1-4); he is a devouring lion (1 Peter 5:8); he works hard to outwit God's children (2 Corinthians 2:11); he fires fiery darts at God's faithful saints (Ephesians 6:16); he desires to lead us astray from a pure devotion to Christ (2 Corinthians 11:3); we know that the systems of this world lie in his power (1 John 5:19); Satan had the power of death (Hebrews 2:14); and most importantly, we know that he is a defeated foe through the work of Christ....*"Since therefore the children share in the flesh and blood, He Himself (Christ) likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (Hebrews 2:14-15). "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning since the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). "...having forgiven us all of our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to an open shame, by triumphing over them in Him" (Colossians 2:13-15). "and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever" (Revelation 20:10).*
- Salvation 101:
 - Three main things have been bought for us by the work of Jesus Christ: ***Justification:*** We are now loved as His sons and daughters, accepted into His presence, and forgiven and acquitted of all our sins (Romans 1:16-17; Romans 3:20-26; *Romans 5:1-11*; Romans 8:1-4; Romans 8:31-39). ***Sanctification:*** Through our growing knowledge of God and His Word we will kill our forgiven sin and grow in practical holiness, love, and enjoyment of God and grow in love towards one another (*Romans 6:1-23*; Romans 8:9-17; Romans 12:1-21; Romans 13:11-14). ***Glorification:*** We will be transformed and given imperishable and immortal bodies and we will see, know, experience, love, and enjoy God perfectly, and enjoy His eternal goodness forevermore (*Romans 8:16-25*; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58; Philippians 3:20-21).
 - The dangers of over focusing on one aspect of what was bought for us in Christ: If we focus too much on ***justification*** we are susceptible to emptiness, boredom, dissatisfaction, freedoms, presumption on His grace, a lack of commitment to God and His church, a lack of reverence for God, passivity, entitlement, emotionalism, the social gospel, and love with no knowledge. If we focus too much on ***sanctification*** we are susceptible to despair, exhaustion, lack of joy, self-righteousness, being judgmental, being hyper-critical, asceticism, tradition exaltation, anger, Christian superiority,

(continued →)

Worship: Grace Alone (The Modern Post)
In Tenderness (The Sing Team)

Tis So Sweet (Various Artists)

Closing Song: It Is Well (Sovereign Grace Music)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

unworthiness, an unhealthy fear of God, and head knowledge with no love. If we focus on both proportionately we will long for *glorification* and at the same time want to work for eternal reward.

- Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:13-23
 - Our faith and hope for our salvation, past, present, and future is in the grace of God, not our works (Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 8:31-34).
 - The salvation that was purchased for us is a transformative salvation. *Positionally*: From enemy of God to child of God (Romans 5:10; Romans 8:15-16); from dead in my sins to being born again (Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Peter 1:3); from a slave to sin to a slave of God (Romans 6:17-18). *Practically*: From ungodly living to holy living (Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:13-22); from uncommitted to the body of Christ to committed to the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-16); from living for this world to living for eternity (Matthew 6:19-24).
 - The return of Christ or the culmination of our salvation is one of the main motivators for holy living (2 Peter 3:9-13).

→**Prayer Points for Day of Prayer (Wednesday, May 25th):**

- Pray for wisdom and steadfastness for our Elders and Deacons as they lead and serve our church body.
- Pray that we as individuals and as a church body would grow and abound in our zeal and love for the Lord each day.
- Pray that we as individuals and as a church body would genuinely love one another with a brotherly affection and that our love would overflow into serving one another with joy.
- Pray that we as individuals and as a church body would mourn for those who do not know or keep God's law and that we would be moved to reach out to the community with the gospel of God.

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of May we are collecting donations for Vertical 196. They are in need of Men's Medium & Large boxer briefs, Women's Size 5-6 panties, individually wrapped snack cakes and cookies, single serve applesauce cups, fruit cups, pudding cups, Slim Jims, combination bike locks, razors, dog/cat food, Fuel only gift cards, Coffee, and Men's short/ankle socks. There is a tote in front of the back table to put your donations in. NEXT Sunday will be our last day to collect these donations!

★**NEW MEMBERS MEETING:** If you are interested in or have any questions about church membership, we will be having a New Members Meeting NEXT Sunday, May 29th, immediately following the worship service.

★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be THIS Wednesday, May 25th. We ask that you set aside specific time on this day to pray for the leaders and the ministries of our church body. If you have any prayer requests you would like for the Elders to be praying for on that day, please communicate those with Pastor Jeremy on that day. Please see the prayer points above for the day of prayer.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner tonight immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.