Soteriology

Session 55



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Soteriology Overview

I. Definition
II. Election
III. Atonement
IV. Salvation words
V. God's one condition of salvation
VI. Results of salvation
VII. Eternal security
VIII. Faulty views of salvation

FINAL EXAM!

Christ's Atoning Death

- Substitution – Isa 53:3-6
- Illustrations
  - Secret serviceman
  - Bee sting





Isaiah 53:3–6

3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows
and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men
hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem
Him. 4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows
He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But He was pierced through
for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;
The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His
scourging we are healed. 6 All of us like sheep have gone
astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD
has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

Christ's Atoning Death

- False views of the atonement
  - Ransom to Satan – Christ's death is a ransom to Satan and not the Father (A.D. 185–54)
  - Moral influence – Christ's death is an expression of God's love (A.D. 1079–1142)
  - Moral example – Christ's death inspires us to be sacrificial (A.D. 1539–1604)
  - Governmental – Christ's death promotes respect for God's Law (A.D. 1583–1645)
  - Accidental – Fate accidently ended Christ's life

V. God's One Condition of Salvation

A. Misconceptions – multiple steps, poor word choices
B. Around 200 passages teach that justification is conditioned on faith alone
C. Why God has conditioned salvation on faith alone
D. What saving faith is – trust
E. What saving faith is not – Jas 2:19
F. Content of saving faith – John 8:24; 20:30-31; 1 Cor 15:1-4
G. An evangelistic model
H. Response to problem passages

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- Repent (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 2 Pet 3:9)? Change of mind
- Lordship (Matt 16:24-25)? Discipleship vs. justification
- Receive/Accept Christ? – Synonym of faith (John 1:12)
- Believe and work (Eph 2:8-10; Jas 2:14-26)? Sanctification
- Believe and be baptized (Mark 16:15-16; John 3:5; Acts 2:38; Col 2:11-12; 1 Pet 3:21)? Context

Response to Problem Passages

- Confession of Christ before man (Rom 10:9-10; Matt 10:32-33)? Context
- Ask Jesus into your heart (Rev 3:20)? Context
- Confess your sins (Matt 6:12; 1 John 1:9)? Context
- Forgive others (Matt 6:14-15)? Father (6:9) vs. judge
- Sell your possessions (Matt 19:21-22)? Unique situation
- Prayer and saving faith? Faith expressed by the prayer saves and not merely the prayer

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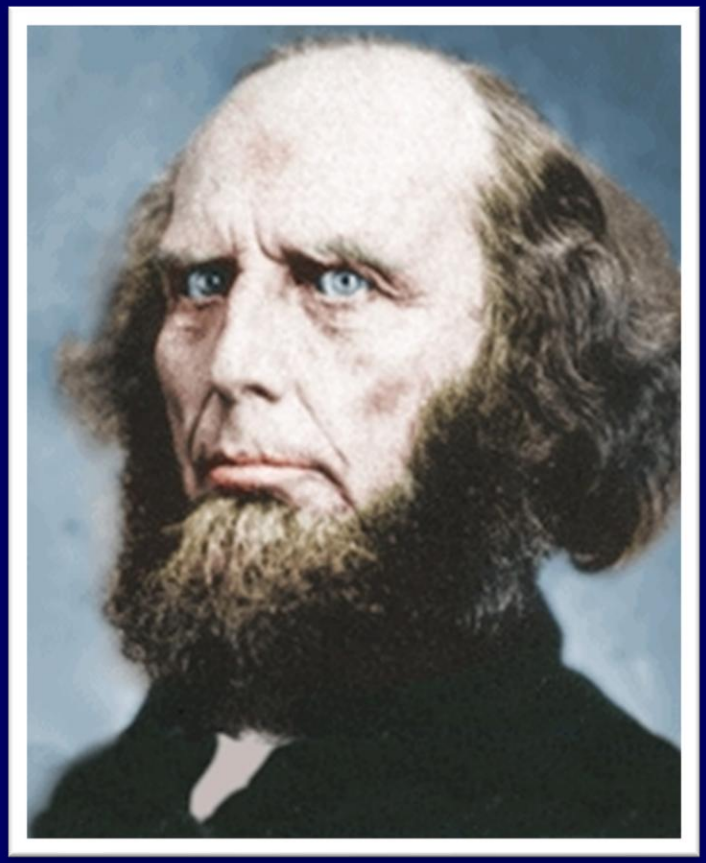
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Poor Word Choices

- ABC method – **A**dmit, **B**elieve, **C**onfess
- Miscellaneous poor word choices – confess, deny, yield, surrender, sorrow, make, ask, forsake, receive, accept, invite
- Negative influence of Charles Finney



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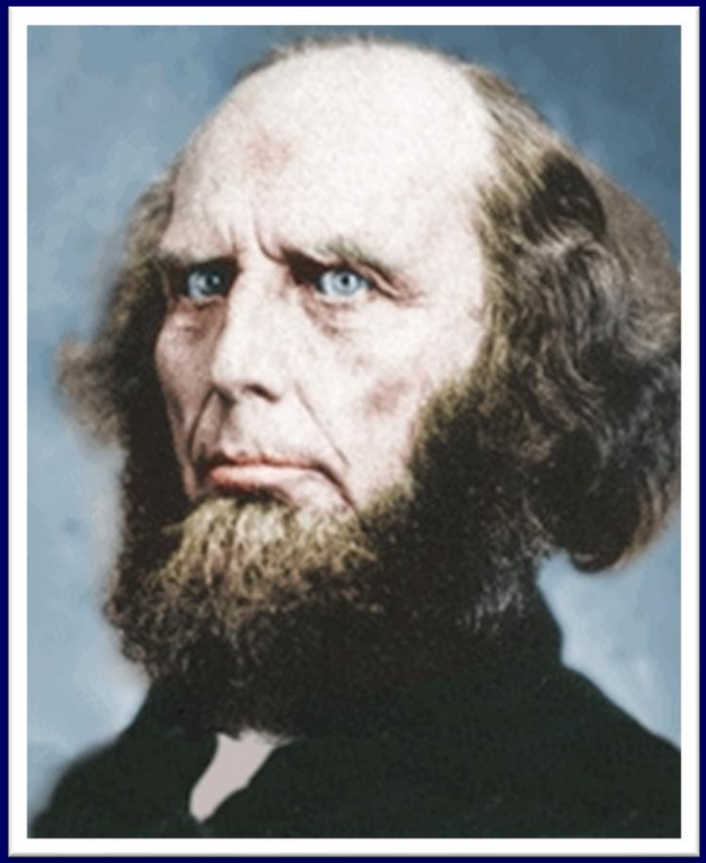
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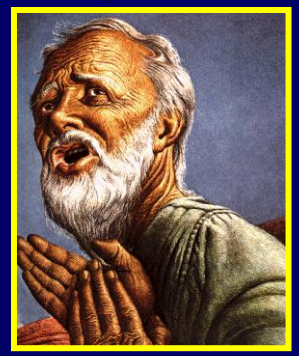
"Believe" Defined

pisteuō…"to believe," also "to be **persuaded** of," and hence, "to place **confidence** in, to **trust**," signifies, in this sense of the word, **reliance** upon, not mere credence. It is most frequent in the writings of the apostle John, especially the Gospel. He does not use the noun…Of the writers of the Gospels…uses of the verb…John **ninety-nine**.

W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville: Nelson, 1996), 61.

Why Has God Designed Justification by Faith Alone?

- Faith in non-meritorious (Isa. 64:6; Rom. 4:4-5)
- Faith is by grace and not works (Rom. 11:6)
- Faith maintains God's glory (Isa. 42:8)
- Faith eliminates boasting (Rom. 3:27; Eph. 2:8-9)
- Faith maintains the Gospel's offense (Gal. 5:11)



Repentance

A. What repentance means
   1. Metanoeō / metanoia
   2. *Meta* = change (exs: metabolism, metamorphosis, metastasize
   3. *Noeō* = notion = mind
   4. "Change of mind"
   5. Change mind about whatever is preventing someone from trusting in Christ alone
   6. Synonym for faith (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 2 Pet 3:9)

B. What repentance does **NOT** mean
   1. Feeling sorry or guilty (Heb 12:17; *metamelomai*)
   2. Turning from sin (John 4:10, 17-19)

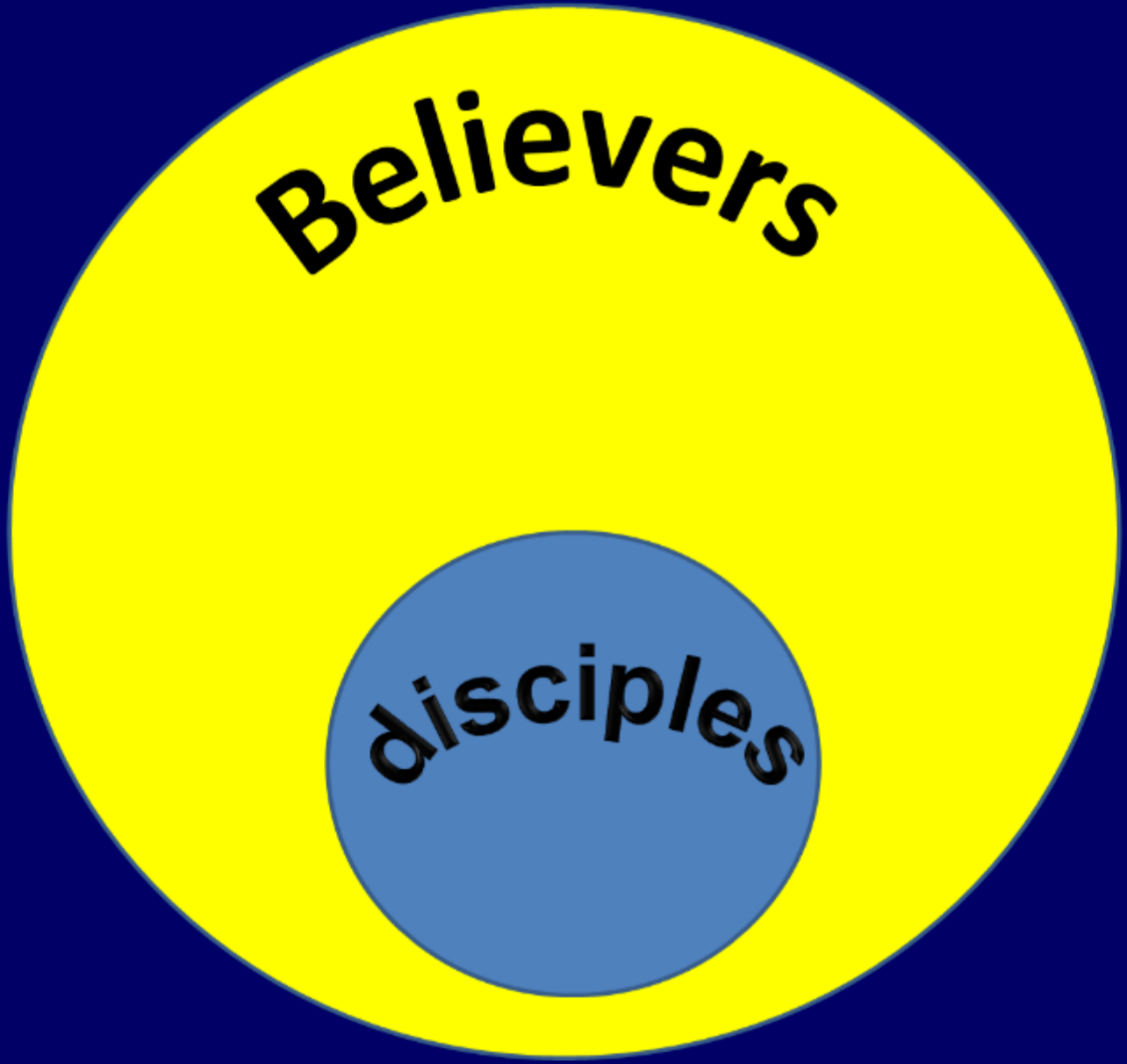
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A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

chronology |krəˈnɒlədʒi| *noun*
the arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence

Lordship Sanctification



JUSTIFICATION – SALVATION	DISCIPLESHIP
FREE GIFT	COSTLY
RECEIVED THROUGH FAITH	ENTERED INTO THROUGH COMMITMENT AND OBEDIENCE THROUGH THE SPIRIT'S ENABLEMENT
NOT BY WORKS	INVOLVES OUR COOPERATION
INSTANT	LIFE-LONG PROCESS
JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION
JESUS PAID THE PRICE	BELIEVER PAYS THE PRICE
TRUSTING JESUS AS SAVIOR	FOLLOWING JESUS AS LORD
BELIEVE THE GOSPEL	OBEY THE COMMANDS
ONE CONDITION	MULTIPLE CONDITIONS
EXPERIENCED BY ALL CHRISTIANS	EXPERIENCED BY SOME CHRISTIANS
RESULTS IN ETERNAL LIFE	RESULTS IN REWARDS & AUTHORITY

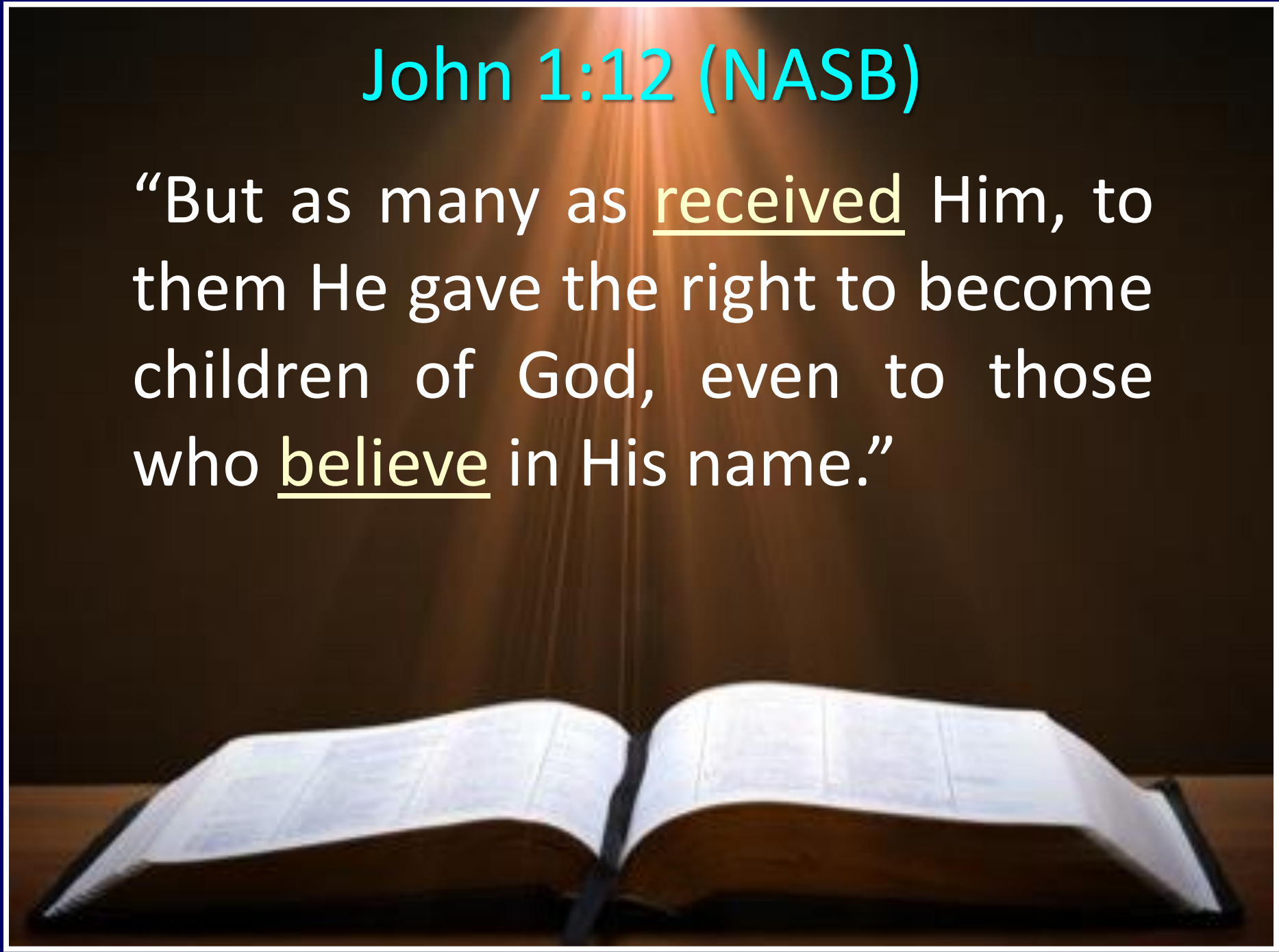
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John 1:12 (NASB)

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name."



Results of Salvation

- Sonship/adoption (Gal 4:5-7; Rom 8:14-17)
- Eternal life (John 3:16)
- Regeneration (John 3:5; Titus 3:5)
- Justification (Rom 8:33-34)
- Forgiveness of all pre-cross sins (Acts 17:30; Rom 3:25)
- **Good works (Eph 2:8-10)**
- Sanctification (John 17:17)
- Glorification (Rom 8:30)
- End of the Law (Rom 10:4)
- Miscellaneous privileges (Philip 3:20; 1 Pet 2:5, 9; Rev 19:7; 1 Pet 1:4; Rom 5:1)

Capacity for Good Works

- Good works – Ephes. 2:8-10; Jas 2:18, 26
- Overcoming habitual sins that characterize unbelievers – Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Eph. 5:5; Rev. 21:8; 22:15
- Desirable but not automatic
  - Good works – John 15:8
  - Habitual Sin – 2 Pet 2:7; 1 Cor. 3:15; 6:19





James 2:14–26

(NASB95)

14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can
that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily
food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet
you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? 17 Even so
faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself. 18 But someone may *well* say, “You
have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show
you my faith by my works.” 19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons
also believe, and shudder. 20 But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that
faith without works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works
when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with
his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and the Scripture was
fulfilled which says, “AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS
RIGHTEOUSNESS,” and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that a man is justified
by works and not by faith alone. 25 In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also
justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another
way? 26 For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is
dead.

Harmony Between Paul and James

	PAUL	JAMES
Issue	Self righteous Judaism	Dead orthodoxy
Justification	Declaration of innocence before God	Evidence of the believer's useful faith before man
Genesis	Gen 15:6	Gen 22
Faith	Justification – “Abram”	Sanctification – “Abraham”
Works	Favor with God	Believer's moral deeds

JUSTIFICATION – SALVATION	DISCIPLESHIP
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Believe and Be Baptized?
Problem Passages

- Mark 16:15-16
- John 3:5
- Acts 2:38
- Rom. 6:3-4 & Col. 2:11-12
- 1 Pet. 3:20-21



Evidence for Eternal Security

1. Because self-righteousness did not save us it is not a basis upon which salvation can be lost
2. Salvation is not given or maintained by works
3. If a believer can lose eternal life, then how can this life be eternal (John 3:16)?
4. The Bible's promises guarantee security (John 10:28)
5. The assurance of salvation (1 John 5:14)
6. The believer is predestined for glory (Rom 8:29-30)
7. The Spirit's seal cannot be broken (Eph 4:30)

Evidence for Eternal Security

8. God keeps us from falling (1 Pet 1:4-5)
9. Christ's role as intercessor and advocate (John 17:11-12, 20)
10. Christ's death perfectly dealt with all sins (Titus 2:14)
11. A believer cannot be removed from Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:13)
12. The Bible does not specify which sins remove salvation
13. Believers with unfruitful lives still have salvation although lose rewards at the Bema Seat (1 Cor 3:15)

2. Passages From Matthew

a. Matt. 6:14-15
b. Matt. 7:21-23
c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
d. Matt. 10:32-33
e. Matt. 12:31-32
f. **Matt. 24:13**
g. Matt. 25:41



Matt. 24:13 (NASB)

"But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved."





5. Passages From Paul

a. **Gal. 5:4**

b. Gal. 5:19-21

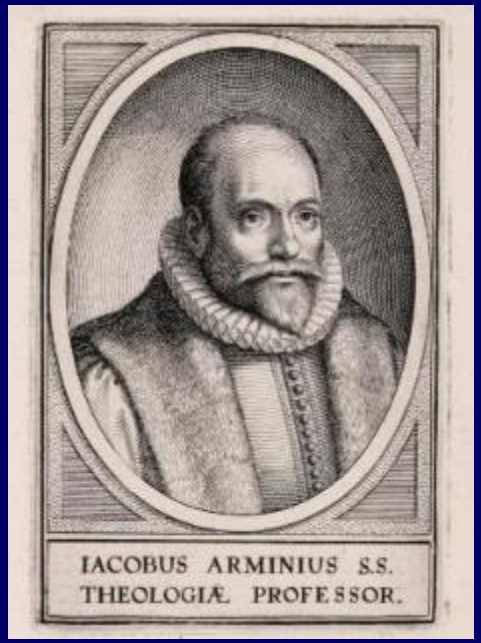
c. Rom. 8:13

d. 1 Cor. 8:11

e. 1 Cor. 9:24-27

f. 1 Cor. 11:28-30, 32

g. 1 Cor. 15:2



h. 2 Cor. 13:5

i. Gal. 5:19-21

j. Philip. 2:12

k. Col. 1:23

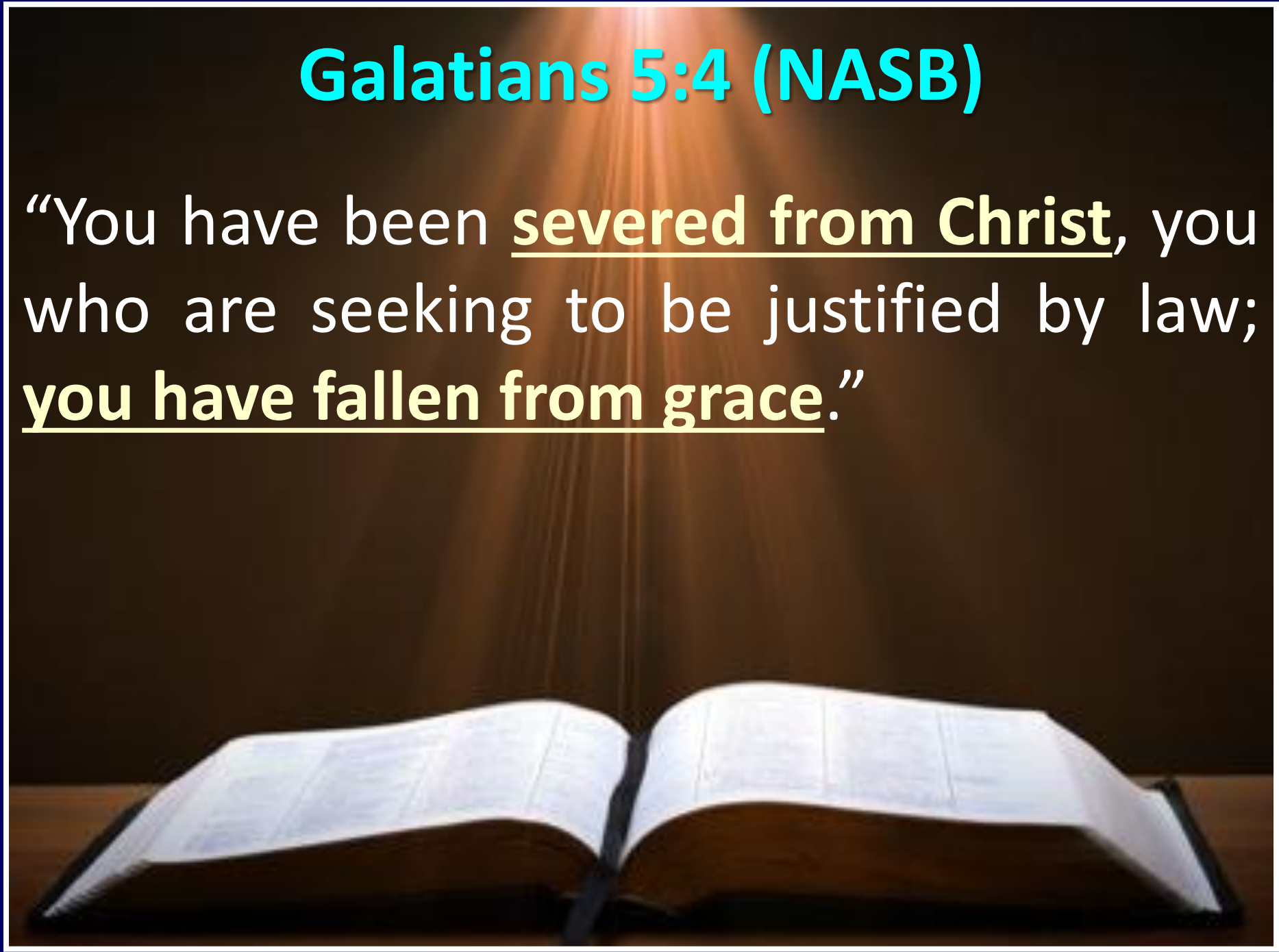
l. 1 Tim. 5:15

m. 2 Tim. 2:12

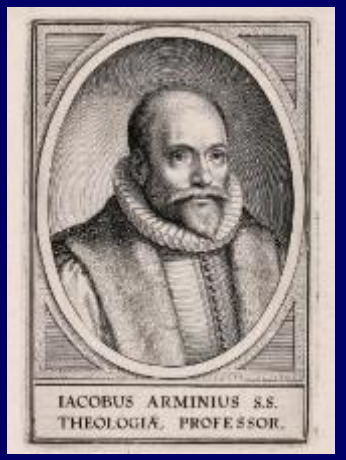
n. 2 Tim. 4:10

Galatians 5:4 (NASB)

"You have been **severed from Christ**, you who are seeking to be justified by law; **you have fallen from grace**."



a. Galatians 5:4



1. The Galatians were believers (4:6; 5:16)
2. Three types of Pharisees
3. Galatians is a spiritual life book (3:3)
4. The Galatians were missing God's grace in the middle tense of their salvation (not the first tense)
5. Reverting to a performance based relationship in daily living is quite a fall from grace
6. Galatians 5:4 does not teach a loss of salvation

5. Passages From Paul

a. Gal. 5:4

b. Gal. 5:19-21

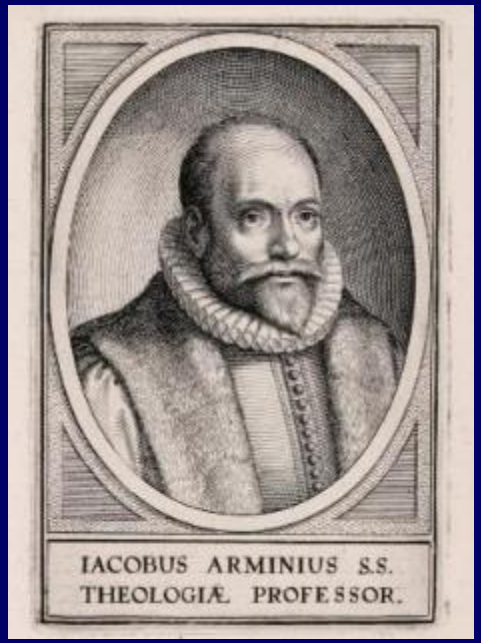
c. Rom. 8:13

d. 1 Cor. 8:11

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f. 1 Cor. 11:28-30, 32

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h. 2 Cor. 13:5

i. **Philip. 2:12**

j. Col. 1:23

k. 1 Tim. 5:15

l. 2 Tim. 2:12

m. 2 Tim. 4:10

Philippians 2:12 (NASB)

"So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your salvation with fear and trembling**."



Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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Philippians 2:12

- Middle tense of salvation
- Immediate context – Philippians 2:14-16
- Overall context – Philippians 4:2-3

Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20

b. Heb. 3:6, 14

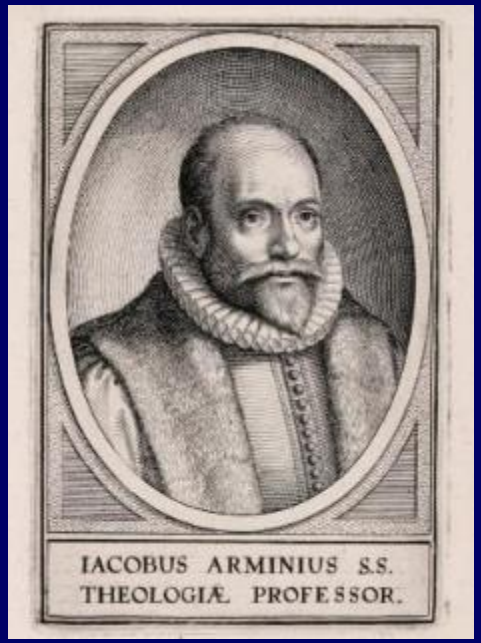
c. Heb. 5:9-10

d. Heb. 6:4-6

e. Heb. 10:26-30

f. Heb. 12:14

g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11, 20-22



h. Jude 11

i. 1 John 2:3

j. 1 John 3:9

k. 1 John 3:15

l. <u>1 John 5:16</u>

m. Rev. 3:5

n. Rev. 22:18-19

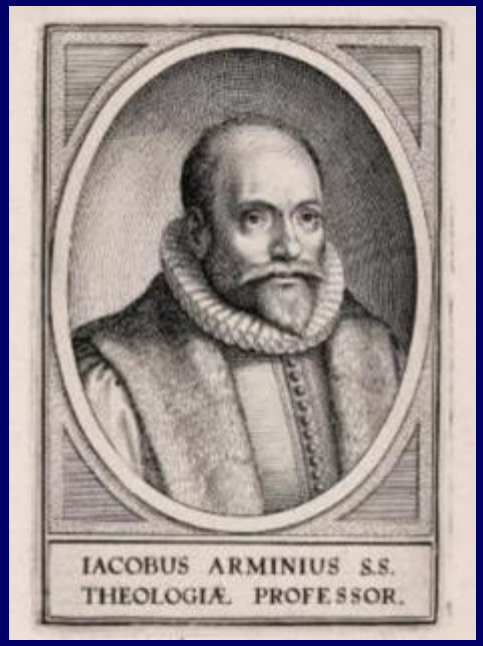
1 John 5:16-17

“If anyone sees his brother committing **a sin not *leading* to death**, he shall ask and *God* will for him give life to those who commit **sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death**; I do not say that he should make request for this. [17] All unrighteousness is sin, and **there is a sin not leading to death**.” (NASB)



1 John 5:16-17

- Sin brings death
  - Rom. 6:23
  - Jas. 1:14-16
- Maximum divine discipline
  - Acts 5:1-11
  - 1 Cor. 11:30
  - 1 John 5:16-17
  - Rev. 2:22-23



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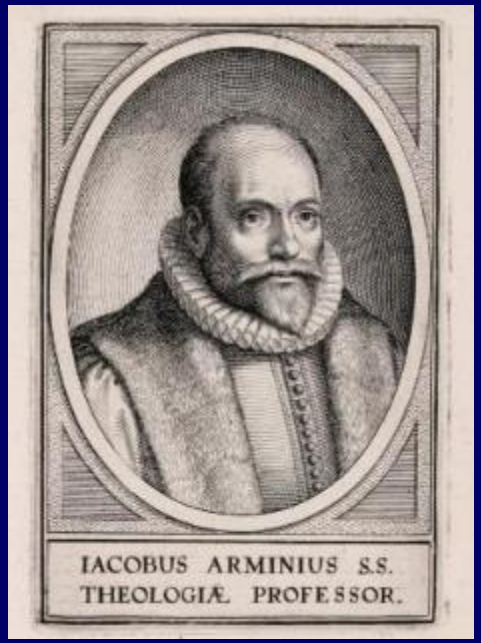
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f. Heb. 12:14

g. <u>2 Pet. 1:10-11</u>



h. 2 Pet. 2:20-22

i. 1 John 2:3

j. 1 John 3:9

k. 1 John 3:15

l. 1 John 5:16

m. Rev. 3:5

n. Rev. 22:18-19

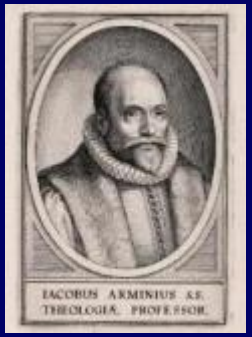
2 Peter 1:10-11

“Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent **to make certain about His calling and choosing you**; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; [11] for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.” (NASB)



2 Peter 1:10-11

- Diligence in the Christian life does not make the believer more secure
- However, it can deepen inward assurance
- “Abundant entrance into the kingdom”-some believers will be saved but have little reward (1 Cor. 3:15; 2 John 8; Rev. 3:11)
- Our ultimate assurance comes from Christ’s promises (John 5:24; 6:47)



Lordship Salvation 7 Problems



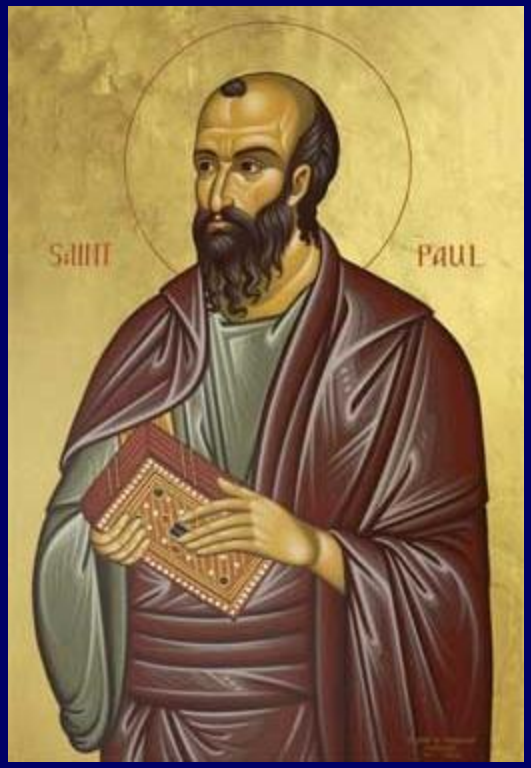
- ✓ Changes the gospel
- ✓ Places an impossible burden upon the unsaved
- ✓ Confuses justification with sanctification
- ✓ Confuses the result of with requirement for salvation
- ✓ Fails to make basic dispensational distinctions
- ✓ **Ignores the reality of a carnal Christian**
- ✓ Destroys the assurance of salvation

4 Kinds of People from 1 Corinthians 3:1-3



4 KINDS OF PEOPLE

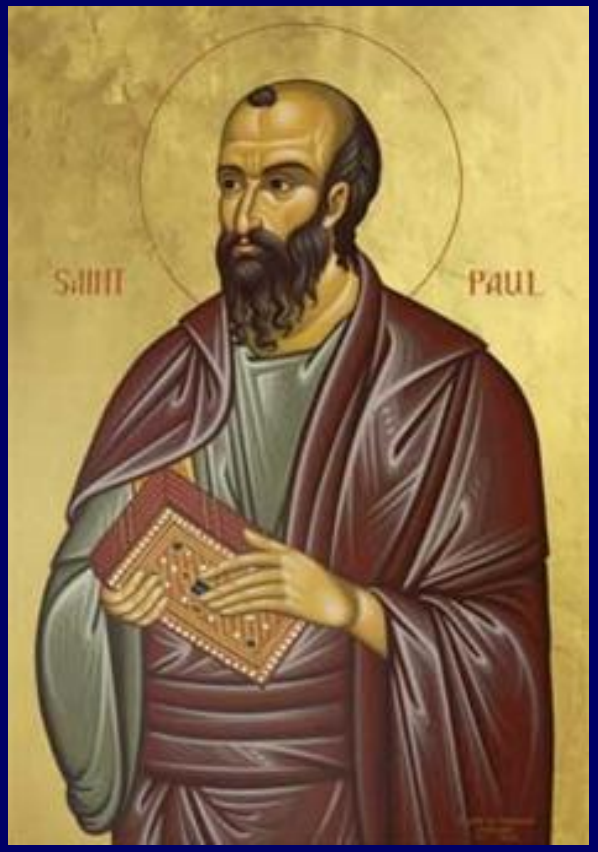
1 Corinthians 3:1-3



1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to **spiritual** *people* but as to **carnal**, as to **babes** in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it,* and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where *there are* envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like *mere* **men**? (NKJV)

Carnal Christianity
"an unfortunate possibility"

- Exod. 19:1ff
- Acts 10:14
- Gal. 2:11-14
- Acts 19:18-19
- 1 Cor. 1:2, 7
- 1 Cor. 3:15
- 1 Cor. 6:19
- 1 Cor. 9:24-27
- Philip. 4:2-3
- Lot-Gen. 13:12; 19:4-8, 14, 30-38 vs. Gen 19:22; 2 Pet. 2:7-8



CONCLUSION

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