

November 21, 2021

Keeping Yourself Oriented in a Disorienting World

Exodus 34, II Corinthians 3 “From Glory to Glory”

The covenant that saves you is also the covenant that sanctifies you.

The covenant that cannot save you, also cannot sanctify you.

Next week:

The priesthood that saves you is also the priesthood that sanctifies you.

The priesthood that cannot save you, also cannot sanctify you.

Definition of terms: the words “save” and “sanctify” can mean more than one thing; the immediate context in which the words are found will determine their meaning; for example, Peter, when he was sinking in the water, said “Lord, save me” (Matt 14:30). He wasn’t talking about eternal life; he was talking about not drowning! When the Philippian jailer said “What must I do to be saved?”, he was talking about eternal life; the answer was, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” (Acts 16:30,31)

For the purposes of the next two sermons, these are the definitions of the theological terms in the statements above:

“**saves you**” = saves you from eternal damnation unto eternal life; justification before God based upon our faith in our Savior

“**sanctifies you**” = sets you apart; your progressive growth from a spiritual baby into spiritual maturity. Our

walk with Christ is our progressive sanctification; based upon our obedience.

Exodus 34:28-35

Moses’ face shone with glory after he had been in the presence of God. But the radiance faded away and had to be renewed again.

“glory” = Gr *doxa* = the divine mode of being; divine honor, splendor, power, radiance
(Kittel, The Theological Dictionary of the New Testament)

2 Corinthians 2:3-18

Comparisons between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant

Old Covenant

Tablets of stone v. 3

Letter v. 6

Letter kills v. 6

Ministry of death v. 7

Came with glory v. 7

Ministry of condemnation v. 9

With glory v. 9

Veil unlifted v. 14

New Covenant

Human hearts v. 3

Spirit v. 6

Spirit gives life v. 6

Ministry of Spirit v. 7

More glory v. 7

Ministry of righteousness v. 9

Abounding in glory v. 9

Veil taken away v. 14

What's the application significance to us?

Unlike the glory of Moses, which faded, our glory increases, as we gaze more and more onto Jesus Christ, with face unveiled, and the power of the Holy Spirit transforms us from the inside out, into the reflection of Jesus.

The Law points us to Christ by showing us our need for a Savior; its purpose was to increase transgressions. Keeping a law does not save us, nor does keeping a law sanctify us. Our Savior saves us when we place our faith in Him to give us eternal life. We grow in sanctification through the power of the Holy Spirit leading us to fulfill the Law of Christ.

Because of this, comparing ourselves, or anyone else, to any external standard of behavior is not an instantaneous indicator of our own, his, or her eternal destiny.

Also,

“where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” Freedom is expensive. As we enter this week of Thanksgiving, thank God for your liberty that was purchased with the price of Jesus' blood. And thank Him also for the privilege of living in a country that was founded on the concept of liberty, whose freedom was likewise purchased with the blood of men and women, who, like the veterans and fallen soldiers that we acknowledge every year, gave their lives yearning to be free. E.M.

Welcome to



Emmanuel

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

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