

Solid Foundation

Pillars of Christianity

Lesson One

“Spiritual Transformation”

INTRODUCTION:

In most religious circles we hear a lot about “*being saved*”. What exactly does this mean? Saved from what, we ask? Well, some say: “Saved from hell”, others say, “Saved from the tribulation”; while still others proclaim, “We’re saved from sin”. In a sense all of these statements are true. To be “*saved*” means much more than this. To truly walk in the reality of this experience, we must dive into the subject a little deeper.

- * The act of “*being saved*” means that one experiences a _____.
- * A change from _____ to _____.
- * It is literally a _____.

John 3:3, 5-7

. . . Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born again. . . I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at My saying, you must be born again.”

Question: Why Must I Be Born Again? To answer this question we must take a historical journey back to a garden . . . The Garden of Eden.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . .

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air. . .

Genesis 1:27

So, God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.

Genesis 2:15-17

The Lord God took man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, you are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.

- * God and man enjoyed both a _____ and _____ with each other.

Genesis 3:6-7

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

- * Because of their _____, _____ entered into the world.
- * Mankind now experienced a _____ nature.
- * This _____ nature caused a _____ between God and man.

Genesis 3:23

So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

At that moment, mankind died spiritually and began to die physically. Because Adam was the father of all the living, his sinful nature was passed on to all men, therefore, causing them to be separated from God as well.

Romans 5:17

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all have sinned.

- * Man was in need of a _____.
- * Man was in need of a _____, _____ Savior.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:17

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* In _____ all die; in _____ all live!

The question at hand, then, is . . . “How Do I Get Out Of Adam And Into Jesus?”

Romans 10:9-10, 13

That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

John 1:12

Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.

If you are unsure about your salvation here is a simple prayer that can give you the assurance you need: “Oh Lord, thank you for loving me just as I am. I realize today that I need you in my life. I believe you died for me, Jesus, and I believe that you rose again just for me. I ask you today, Lord Jesus, to come into my heart and be my Savior. Forgive me of all my sins and cleanse me with your blood. I commit to serve you all the days of my life. Thank you, Lord, for saving me! Amen.”

* Now that you know you are _____ you also need to realize that you are now _____.

Colossians 1:13

For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

II Corinthians 5:17, 21

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

CONCLUSION:

This is a picture of a Spiritual Transformation. This is what it means to be saved. When one experiences this “life change” it is then that they truly begin to experience life. There is no life apart from Jesus Christ. In Him we have everything we need to fulfill the plan that God has for our lives.

HOMEWORK:

Make a point to affirm your identity this week by repeating the phrases on the following sheet, *WHO AM I?* aloud at least two times a day.

“Who Am I?”

- ☛ I am the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13).
- ☛ I am the Light of the world (Matthew 5:14).
- ☛ I am a child of God (John 1:12).
- ☛ I am Christ’s friend (John 15:15).
- ☛ I am a slave of righteousness (Romans 6:18).
- ☛ I am a joint heir with Christ, sharing His inheritance with Him (Romans 8:17).
- ☛ I am a temple—a dwelling place—of God. His Spirit and His life dwells in me (I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19).
- ☛ I am a member of Christ’s body (I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:30).
- ☛ I am a new creation (II Corinthians 5:17).
- ☛ I am reconciled to God and am a minister of reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:18, 19).
- ☛ I am a saint (Ephesians 1:1; I Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2).
- ☛ I am God’s workmanship—His handiwork—born anew in Christ to do His work (Ephesians 2:10).
- ☛ I am a fellow citizen with the rest of God’s family (Ephesians 2:19).
- ☛ I am a prisoner of Christ (Ephesians 3:1; 4:1).
- ☛ I am righteous and holy (Ephesians 4:24).
- ☛ I am a citizen of heaven, seated in heaven right now (Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:6).
- ☛ I am hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:12; I Thessalonians 1:4).
- ☛ I am a partaker of Christ; I share in His life (Hebrews 3:14).
- ☛ I am one of God’s living stones, being built up in Christ as a spiritual house (I Peter 2:5).
- ☛ I am a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession (I Peter 2:9, 10).
- ☛ I am an alien and stranger to this world in which I temporarily live (I Peter 2:11).
- ☛ I am an enemy of the devil (I Peter 5:8).
- ☛ I am born of God, and the evil one—the devil—cannot touch me (I John 5:18).

Since I Am In Christ, By The Grace Of God . . .

- ☛ I have been justified—completely forgiven and made righteous (Romans 5:1).
- ☛ I died with Christ and died to the power of sin’s rule over my life (Romans 6:1-6).

- ☛ I am free forever from condemnation (Romans 8:1).
- ☛ I have received the Spirit of God into my life that I might know the things freely given to me by God (I Corinthians 2:12).
- ☛ I have been given the mind of Christ (I Corinthians 2:16).
- ☛ I have been bought with a price; I am not my own; I belong to God (I Corinthians 6:19, 20).
- ☛ Since I have died, I no longer live for myself, but for Christ (II Corinthians 5:14, 15).
- ☛ I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. The life I am now living is Christ's life (Galatians 2:20).
- ☛ I have been blessed with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3).
- ☛ I was chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and am without blame before Him (Ephesians 1:4).
- ☛ I was predestined—determined by God—to be adopted as God's son (Ephesians 1:5).
- ☛ I have been redeemed and forgiven, and I am a recipient of His lavish grace (Colossians 1:14).
- ☛ I have been raised up and seated with Christ in heaven (Ephesians 2:6).
- ☛ I have direct access to God through the Spirit (Ephesians 2:18).
- ☛ I may approach God with boldness, freedom and confidence (Ephesians 3:12).
- ☛ I have been rescued from the domain of Satan's rule and transferred to the kingdom of Christ (Colossians 1:13).
- ☛ I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. The debt against me has been canceled (Colossians 1:14).
- ☛ Christ Himself is in me (Colossians 1:27).
- ☛ I have been made complete in Christ (Colossians 2:10).
- ☛ I have been buried, raised and made alive with Christ (Colossians 2:12, 13).
- ☛ I died with Christ and I have been raised up with Christ. My life is now hidden with Christ in God. Christ is now my life (Colossians 3:1-4).
- ☛ I have been given a spirit of power, love and self-discipline (II Timothy 1:7).
- ☛ I have been saved and set apart according to God's doing (II Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5).
- ☛ I have the right to come boldly before the throne of God to find mercy and grace in time of need (Hebrews 4:16).
- ☛ I have been given exceedingly great and precious promises by God by which I am a partaker of God's divine nature (II Peter 1:4).

(“Who Am I?” was taken from “Breaking Through To Spiritual Maturity” by Neil Anderson.)