

The Soul Winner's Manual

LECTURE 13

2 of 2 OUTLINE BY RALPH "YANKEE" ARNOLD

LORDSHIP SALVATION

Whether or not there will be a change in a believer's life depends upon that Christian's *own choice*. There is a battle raging within, and *he must fight and win it in the strength of the Lord*.

If every believer automatically has a changed life the moment he is saved, then Lot never was saved. He lived in the wicked city of Sodom, got drunk and committed fornication with his own daughters (Genesis 19). Was he saved? "And delivered *just* Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked. (For that *righteous man* dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds)" (II Peter 2:7, 8).

The Bible calls Lot "just" and "righteous" and so he was-in the **eyes of God!** A man receives God's righteousness by faith in Christ. Yet there was no outward change for the better in Lot's life. *God says he was still saved.* However, he reaped the consequences of his sin-he lost all he had on earth and ended his life in misery.

YOU MUST keep salvation and service separate. If you don't, you will be very confusing when you attempt to speak to them. It is also very confusing for a Christian to witness when he doesn't know for sure if his own life measures up to this high standard of self-righteousness.

A Christian, of course, should serve the Lord, but he is still a Christian if he does *not* serve the Lord. **SALVATION IS FREE.** Stand strong for the Gospel of Grace. You will be glad you did; now, and at the judgment seat of Christ!

REASONS FOR NOT TEACHING "LORDSHIP SALVATION"

1. **It contradicts Scripture;** therefore, it cannot be true. This one reason should settle the matter completely. If a doctrine is contrary to what God says, then it should be discarded immediately. See Rom. 3:4; Titus 2:7; Gal. 4: 16.
2. **It causes confusion and frustration** to the unbeliever because it leaves the impression that salvation is by works. Therefore, the lost person often puts off accepting Christ until he is "ready" to turn his entire life over to the Lord. If the truth were presented to such a person, that salvation is free, but that after we are saved the Lord would work in our lives, perhaps he would trust Christ. Because of a "grace plus works" message he might NEVER trust Christ (I Cor. 14:8,9).
3. **This message CANNOT SAVE.** If anyone gets saved during such a message, it will be because God has honored a portion of His Word IN SPITE of the unscriptural teaching brought into the message (Rom. 4:5; Gal. 5:1-4; Rom. 11:6; Isa. 55:8-11; Rom.10:17).
4. **This message is cursed of God.** Any message, no matter how "good" it may sound, is condemned by God unless it is His own salvation message. God curses all other messages (Acts 4:12; John 14:6; Gal. 1:6-9; II Cor. 11:13 15; Gal. 3:1-3).
5. **The person who preaches such a message is also cursed of God.** Strong statement? Yes, but it is what God says. A man who preaches man's efforts have a part in salvation is leading people to hell, not heaven.

Even if a man believes he is sincere, a wrong message still has the effects of the wrong message. Sincerity is no substitute for truth (Deut. 27:18; Prov. 17:15; 19:5; Jer. 23:1).

6. If salvation really does come to those who turn over their lives to Christ, then **God has been wrong all the time**, throughout the entire Bible, because salvation is taught from Genesis to Revelation to come only through faith (Titus 1:2, 3; Romans 3: 4).

7. **It causes even Christian preachers to further the error** by thinking it might have some merit and preaching it themselves. One well-known Christian returned to America from some meetings he held in a foreign country and made a statement like this: “I really made it difficult for them to accept Christ over there. I made it hard for them there. I told them accepting Christ meant turning from their sins, reading their Bibles, praying every day, giving up bad habits, and going to church regularly. And despite such a hard message hundreds made decisions for Christ.”

WHAT A TRAGEDY! When people hear the true gospel after hearing this type of message, they are often unable to distinguish what is truth from what is error, and so many are left confused and unsaved.

8. The preaching of this error **robs the one preaching it of reward**. Paul said, “What is our . . . crown? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?” The more we are able to win to Christ, the more souls will be in heaven, and so the more reward we will have. But those who preach a confused message hinder people from trusting Christ as their Saviour. Therefore, many souls are left unsaved, and so these preachers will not have the reward that they could have had (I Thess. 2: 19, 20; II John 8; I John 2:28; I Cor. 9:18).

9. **It confuses “laymen”** believers and causes them to be ineffective in their witness. A girl recently asked, “I know that you are sincere and seem to have Scripture to back up what you teach, but my pastor is also sincere and teaches differently about salvation than you do. How do I know which one of you is right? How can I witness when I don't know what to tell people?”

A confused believer will probably give out some mixture of “grace and works” that will not only confuse the lost person, but will also bring discouragement to the believer when he doesn't find people responding to his witness. When the gospel is given out, pure and simple, there will be results. The gospel is good news, and people respond to it.

10. **It hinders the growth of the body of Christ**. This is one of the results of the above (#9). When the believer's mouth is stopped, (regardless of the reason), then, the natural flow of fruit-bearing is also stopped. Since Christ's body is composed of believers, the growth of His body is hindered when souls are not won (John 15: 8, 16).

Incidentally, this will also stop the growth of the local church as well. It is so obvious when you stop to think about it. Why any preacher thinks this accursed “grace and works” message would in any way benefit anyone is a puzzle to me. Let's learn to **THINK THINGS THROUGH!**

11. **It brings persecution to the believers** who stand firm for the Scriptural message of “justification by faith.” Those who are clear on the gospel are often accused of preaching “easy believism” or “cheap grace.” Nothing could be further from the truth! Tell me, is a person ever saved by “hard” believism? This is absurd. God's grace is precious. The blood of Jesus is precious (I Peter 1:18, 19). Salvation is anything but cheap. God has gone through so MUCH to provide redemption for us! No one is ever saved by “cheap grace.” They are saved by **PRICELESS, AMAZING GRACE!** We have a miracle salvation-provided and preserved by God Himself! Let's give out the good news of this salvation simply and faithfully for His glory.