

# The Soul Winner's Manual for Florida Bible College

## LECTURE 1 OUTLINE BY RALPH "YANKEE" ARNOLD

### The Message: God's Plan of Salvation (THE BAD NEWS)

In trying to lead a person to the Lord please remember that this person needs to understand the plan of salvation and nothing else until after he is saved.

1. (I Cor. 2:14) The unsaved cannot really grasp spiritual teachings because they are not born again and do not have the Holy Spirit within to teach them these things.
2. (John 16:7-11) God wants the unsaved to trust Christ as their Saviour, and will help them understand the verses on the plan of salvation. Wait until the person is saved before you start talking about service or any so-called "deeper" truths.
3. (I Cor. 14:40) Do things in order. As you explain the plan of salvation to someone you will be sensitive to notice which areas he needs to have dealt with at some length. **First** we will cover the doctrine, then we will discuss the presentation, throughout most of these notes.

**DOCTRINE #1 - Everyone is a sinner, less perfect than God.** If you compare your life with that of those around you, you might feel you are a good person; But when you compare even your best qualities with those of the Almighty God, you will see that you are not as perfect as God. Nobody is. One word God uses when He says we "sin" is "hamartano" in the Greek, and means to "miss the mark". We miss the mark of God's perfection.

1. (Rom. 3:23). "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" The Virgin Mary, the Pope, your minister, your mother, you and I...all are sinners. "
2. " (Ecc. 7:20)."For there is not a just man .....that doeth good and sinneth not".
3. (Isa. 64:6) "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away"

### **PRESENTATION –**

1. Be careful how you point out the person is a sinner.
  - a. Admit you are, and he will be willing to admit he is. An effective statement is, "God says everyone is a sinner...I am, you are, we all are."
  - b. If you happen to know that the person is very moral, compliment him, but show that he still isn't perfect in God's sight (Isa. 64:6, James 2:10).
2. Never act like, or imply that, we are "holy" because of personal righteousness, neither is it wise to go to the other extreme. Don't tell him your past (or present) sins. Don't use phrases like, "I used to be a sinner, but now I am saved."
3. Sometimes a person will feel he is too great a sinner for Christ to save him. An effective statement is, "God cannot save a good person!" (Rom 3:12.) If God can save the chief he can save the Indians. (I Tim. 1:15). Move on to the next thing you want him to see in the Bible.

**ALWAYS keep the issue between the Bible and him** and not between you and him. The issue isn't that you have the answers, but that God has the answers.

**DOCTRINE #2- The result and penalty of sin is death...**separation from God.

1. (Rom. 6:23). "For the wages of sin is death..." The payment for sin is death. Sin is not paid for by good works, penance, church membership, water baptism, etc. Sin is paid for by death.
2. (Isa. 59:2)**God does not hate the sinner**, but He hates the sin. He hates sin because it separates us from Him.
3. (II Thess. 1:8,9) People, who sin, **must be punished.** "

In flaming fire taking **vengeance** on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be **punished** with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power” Except for those taken in the Rapture, everyone will die physically. The body goes back to dust, and the soul goes to heaven or hell.

Everyone is born dead spiritually (Eph. 2:1). Christ said in John 3:7, “...Ye must be born again.” Only through a new birth of the Spirit can man have eternal life. If a person dies without Christ, his soul will be separated from God and he will be cast into the lake of fire ...(Rev. 20:14,15).

**PRESENTATION** – For most people, a simple statement on this point is sufficient, as: “God loves us but hates our sin, because the payment for sin is death and separation from Him.” When you do not sense resistance on this point (and you usually won’t), move on to what you want to cover next.

**DOCTRINE #3** Not only is God perfect, but the eternal heaven is also a perfect place. No sin could enter this heaven. Man must be perfectly righteous to go to heaven.

1. (II Peter 3:13).”Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness”
2. (Rev. 21:27). “And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie:... “
3. (Psalm 5:4) “For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee”

It is God’s heaven. He created it (Gen 1:1). He lives in it (Psalm 11:4; 115:3). He says there will be no tears, sorrow, pain or death in heaven (Rev. 21:4), and God has the right to say who will go there. If any sin were allowed into heaven, death would be there.

Not only are we sinners and need our sin paid for before we can enter heaven, but this body we have could never live forever anyway. It will get old, sickly, and die. God not only offers a payment for your sin, but He also will give you a new, glorified body that will live forever, entirely free from sin, sickness, and death. It will be like the glorified body of our Lord Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:21; I John 3:2).

**PRESENTATION** – When a person sees that he is a sinner and that with his sin he cannot enter heaven, he will be ready for the next point. Usually a statement like “Heaven is a perfect place, and no sin can enter heaven because sin would bring death” will be sufficient.

**DOCTRINE - #4 Nothing man could do could save him or help save him.**

That a person cannot save himself by his works...or help Christ to save him by his works...or help keep himself saved by his works, will be one of the most difficult things for a person to believe. If anything is clear in Scripture, it is that man is saved by his faith in Christ alone.

1. (Eph. 2:8,9) “For by grace are ye saved ...Not of works, lest any man should boast”.
- 2.
3. (Rom. 4:5) “But to him that worketh not, but believeth ...”
- 4.
5. (Gal 2:16).’Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law....”
- 6.
7. (Titus 3:5) ”Not by works of righteousness which we have done,....”
- 8.
9. (Rom. 3:28) “...we CONCLUDE that a man is JUSTIFIED BY FAITH...”

(II Cor. 11:14,15) Religions are man made. Two Latin words make up our English word "religion;" "re" and "ligio." "Re" means to "go back," and "ligio" means "to bind." "Religion" then means "to bind back." Religions are man's efforts to bind himself back to God.

The plan of salvation is not a religion but is the message of what God has **already done** to bring us back to Him. Satan gives the lost a religion that, when he hears it, will blind him to salvation. He offers them a "heavenly" way to go to hell.

When you witness, always point out that the GOSPEL is NOT a "religion.". While you do believe in the freedom of worship without persecution, point out that all the religious leaders of the world are dead, but the Lord Jesus Christ is alive!

## GOOD WORKS FOR SALVATION IS SATAN'S COUNTERFEIT OF GOD'S GRACE FOR SALVATION. THIS ISSUE OF "GRACE versus WORKS" WILL ALMOST ALWAYS BE THE MAIN THING YOU WILL NEED TO DEAL WITH.

1. (Rom. 11:6)."And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work"
2. Matt. 7:21-23, "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father (I Tim. 2:3, 4) which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? And in Thy Name have cast out devils? And in Thy Name done many WONDERFUL WORKS? And then I will profess unto them, I NEVER knew you; depart from Me, ye that work INIQUITY." **WORKS FOR SALVATION IS A SIN.**

These people tried to work their way to heaven, and God called it SIN. When a person realizes that even the best he can possibly do is still filthy rags in God's sight (Isa. 64:6), he should see the utter folly of believing his good works could help save him.

**PRESENTATION** - The way to overcome this false teaching that man needs to do good works for salvation is to present the person with the clear statements in the Word of God on salvation by faith alone without works. Sometimes you will need to use only a few verses. Great! But often, because people have been so misled and actually blinded by a counterfeit "Christian-do-good-religion," you will have to go over and over salvation-by-faith verses.

**AN IMPORTANT THING TO REMEMBER** - Do not let the person get off onto side issues. Stay with the gospel. It is the power of God unto salvation. Satan will constantly work to get you to leave the gospel.

If a person insists that he must work for salvation, show him verses like Eph. 2,8,9, and stay with them. Ask "How would you interpret 'NOT OF WORKS' - that it is of works? God says it is NOT of works."

You will not have a problem so much with a person's **interpretation** of Scripture as with his **belief** of Scripture. Some people are just unwilling to accept what God says at face value. This is calling God a liar and is so serious that it will result in the person's going to hell.