

ARE YOU SAVED? – A SUPPLEMENT TO “TRUE CONVERSION”

Harvest Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday AM, April 2, 2006

□ **ARE YOU SAVED? – A SUPPLEMENT TO “TRUE CONVERSION”**

- ◆ Message developed for radio – “True Conversion”
  - Distinguishing between false teachings & truth about salvation
- ◆ When Missionary Baptists are asked if they’re saved → We go back
  - Back to our “experience” & how we “felt” at point of salvation
  - A lot of what is said is emotion & reaction → Not “rock” but “sand”
  - But all saved have a common experience
    - Peace & God’s Spirit in us
    - We have become new creatures, created in Christ Jesus
  - However, many of us have wrestled with this data
    - Was it real? → Time affects the memory!
- ◆ When we’re asked if we’re still saved → We go to Scripture
  - Proving that we can’t lose our salvation
  - Why not rely on our “experiences” now?
    - (John 10:10) Jesus came that we might have an abundant life
      - Filled with His presence & Bearing His fruit
    - The Bible answers this question differently than we do
      - “I know” → Not “I believe”
- ◆ ARE YOU SAVED? → Not Were You Saved or Are The Saved Still Saved
  - Most have more data to examine than just what happened years ago

□ **JAMES 2:14-26 WHAT ABOUT YOUR WORKS?**

- ◆ Without works
  - (Vs 14) No profit in this life
  - (Vs 17) Faith is dead (alone)
  - (Vs 18) Faith is invisible (no action)
  - (Vs 19) You look like the devil (believe but no works to justify it)
- ◆ (Vs 22) Works perfect (complete) faith
- ◆ (Vs 24) A person is justified (faith alone does not do it)
- ◆ (Vs 26) Faith w/o works = Dead body
- ◆ Yes! Not proof of salvation → James was writing to “brethren”
  - But Jesus said a good tree will bring forth good fruit → Correlation!
- ◆ As regarding this life, these saved might as well be unsaved
  - Lord tells His church to exclude them and treat them as unsaved
  - We’d do well to hear what Jesus is saying and say, Amen!
  - Stand together, declare them to be as unsaved people and exclude them
  - For Christ’s sake & welfare of the other members
- ◆ Assurance of salvation → The moment of salvation & everyday since

□ **I JOHN 5:11-13 EVIDENCE OF SALVATION (ADD’L DATA)**

- ◆ **I John 1:1-3** The saved enjoy fellowship with God (Father & Son)
  - If your only fellowship w/God is in church → You’re living off others
  - (I Cor 1:9) God has called us into fellowship w/Son

- Paul & Job said, “I know (Jesus)”
- Not one time peace but abiding peace → Day by day, stronger & closer
- ◆ **I John 1:5-10** The saved are sensitive to sin
  - It is characteristic of unsaved to be oblivious to their sins
  - (Romans 7:14-25) When Paul sinned, he was troubled by it
- ◆ **I John 2:3-4** The saved keep God’s commandments
  - Those who know & don’t keep them or those who don’t want to know
- ◆ **I John 2:14-17** The saved reject this world
  - The world is the whole corrupt world system
    - False religions/philosophies, crime, immorality, materialism
    - Saved have been set free from the bondage of sin & this world
- ◆ **I John 3:2-3** The saved long for the Lord’s return
  - (Romans 8:23) The saved are anxious for our body’s adoption
  - Or is your focus on living your life to its fullest?
- ◆ **I John 3:10** The saved love one another
  - (I Thessalonians 4:9) We are taught by God to love one another
  - (Romans 5:5) The love of God has been poured out within our hearts
  - (John 13:35) It is how people know we are Jesus’ disciples
  - I have seen hate in church members → Not fit for membership
  - (I John 3:16) We ought to be laying our lives down for brethren
- ◆ **I John 4:13** The saved have God’s Spirit in them
  - (John 14:26) Spirit will teach you and reveal things to you
  - (Ephesians 5:18-19) Spirit enables us to make melody in hearts to God
  - (Galatians 5:22-23) By Spirit we bear spiritual fruit
  - (John 15:26) Spirit is the Comforter
- ◆ **I John 3:13** The saved are hated for Jesus’ sake
  - Only applies when we’ve been guiltless in presenting Christ
  - Jesus says they will hate us because they hated Him

□ **ARE YOU SAVED?**

- ◆ Nothing wrong with some honest self-examination in this area
  - Stakes are too high to gloss this one over
  - But look at all the evidence
  - If charged with being a Christian → Would you be convicted?
- ◆ Typically, those saved will heed this message
  - If I can help you sort through this, please ask
- ◆ Typically, the unsaved will not think much more about it
  - Here’s where the church needs to step in