II TIMOTHY 2:

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and **overthrow** the faith of some.

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Overthrow 396 anatrepo {an-at-rep'-o} to overthrow, overturn, destroy, to subvert

*Faith starts when you believe in Jesus Christ according to the gospel.*

*And that faith can start in any place any church, house, field, or any other place God chooses.*

*I want to repeat this in ever message I bring as long as the lord wills and that is the simplicity of the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

*The Holy Ghost is a seal, a promise, and a proof of possession and protection*

ACTS 2:

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

II CORINTHIANS 1:

22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

EPHESIANS 1:

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

II TIMOTHY 2:

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

By scripture when God has sealed you that is the earnest or assurance of our inheritance

*The signs, wonders that God showed in the beginning was a confirmation that ever believer will receive the Holy Ghost*.

HEBREWS 2:

4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

*I believe as signs and wonders where a confirmation the apostles and those chosen to preach and teach the gospel were telling the truth according to the will of God and those who received the Holy Ghost immediately manifested the gift or gifts of the Spirit to confirm the promise that the Holy Ghost was given*.

ACTS 10:

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

ACTS 8:

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

ACTS 19

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

ACTS 19:

11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

*This scripture gives the only evidence of the Holy Ghost we will need.*

I JOHN 5:

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

HEBREWS 10:

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

*To draw back they had to start by faith, but something had to stop or overthrow their faith.*

LUKE 8:

13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

II PETER 2:

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them

II CORINTHIANS 11:

2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

MARK 1:

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

*The gospel is all the Word of God but not one person starts with the ability to receive all the Word, but we do have the ability to grow in the Word and that is supplied by the ministry first of the apostles and prophets and continues through those who believe.*

*Everyone starts as a baby.*

I PETER 2:

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

II PETER 3:

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

*The ministry was given by God for the purpose of pointing people to Christ teaching repentance and faith.*

ACTS 20:

20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

II TIMOTHY 3:

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, **which are able to make thee wise unto salvation** **through faith** which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

EPHESIANS 4:

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

EPHESIANS 4

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the **perfecting** of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

**Perfecting**. 2677 katartismos {kat-ar-tis-mos'} complete furnishing, equipping.

HEBREWS 11:

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of **things not seen.**

*Spiritual faith will never be anchored in something we can see that stops or overthrows true faith.*

CORINTHIANS 3

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

*When a person starts they are not ready for even some scriptural doctrine, but churches will force feed their doctrine.*

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

*They were looking at what they could see which was the ministers instead of the Word the ministers preached.*

5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

EPHESIANS 4

13 Till we all come **in the unity of the faith,** and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

*Jesus said you must be born again to see the kingdom of God, I do not believe you have to be born again to believe in Jesus Christ but the Kingdom of God is spiritual and in existence at this time and will become physical at some time soon. Every born again believer sees the Kingdom of God and their purpose in life is dedicated to that.*

MATTHEW 6

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

EPHESIANS 4

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and **cunning craftiness**, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Craftiness 3834 panourgia {pan-oorg-ee'-ah} craftiness, cunning; a specious or false wisdom;

ROMANS 8:

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

*It can and is often subjected to wisdom and human reasoning.*

ROMANS 8:

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

*A religions success is measured by the number of converts it can count the true church is measured by those who are truly born again*.

LUKE 18:

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

*You can have faith in what you are made to see yet true faith in Christ is very personal and cannot be seen or understood with our carnal minds, but we must have the Spirit of God as our teacher.*

I CORINTHIANS 2:

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are **perfect**: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

Perfect: 5046 teleios {tel'-i-os} brought to its end, finished; wanting nothing necessary to completeness;

PHILIPPIANS 1:

18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

*To hear about Christ is where we start but you can only grow by continuing to hear the truth.*

EPHESIANS 4

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

*After hearing about Christ that is when the deceivers will lay in wait to deceive.*

*I recently spoke of servants and every person that starts with Christ starts as a servant but that can change.*

MATTHEW 6:

24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

JOHN 15

24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

25 But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

*Generally, money is the object of many a fall and people love their doctrine which if it is contrary to the Word of God it can bring them like the religions of Christ day into a hate of God himself without knowing*

JOHN 16:

2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.

3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

*I know that a common teaching is that difference in doctrine does not matter as long as you believe in Jesus Christ but this is a lie because Christ as a person is still the Word of God and in our text the wrong teaching about the resurrection stopped the faith of those believing that doctrine.*

*People whose faith has stopped can repent because God has called them out of error.*

REVELATION 18:

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the **hold** of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Hold: 5438 phulake {foo-lak-ay'} 1b) persons keeping watch, a guard, sentinels

of the place where captives are kept, a prison

*No preacher or any religion can ever take the place that Christ came to fulfil.*

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**JUSTIFICATION IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

What does it mean to be justified? I am sure that there have been many definitions given and I by no means can fully expound all that is involved in sinners being justified before God. However, I am sure that it means to be eternally pardoned from all sin by the precious blood of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:18; Rom. 5:9). It means to be acquitted and vindicated of all charges before the holy justice of God (Jude 1: 24). It means to be made and regarded righteous in God’s sight (Col. 1:21-22). How are sinners justified? By God as the source, "*It is God that justifieth*" (Rom. 8:33). By grace as the spring and fountain, "*Justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*" (Rom.3:24). By Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and blood atonement as the ground, "*Being now justified by his blood we shall be saved from wrath through him*" (Rom. 5:9). By His resurrection as the proof and evidence, "*Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification*" (Rom. 4:25). By faith as the means to receive this salvation in Christ, "*Being justified by faith, we have peace with God*" (Rom. 5:1).

Also keep in mind these precious truths of being justified through Christ.

1). **Justification is a perfect gift!** There are no degrees of being justified. From the moment of our spiritual conversion to the end of our earthly life, justification is absolutely the same. There are stages of growth in grace (2 Peter 3:18), but not of justification. We are justified from all things, from which we could not be justified by the law of Moses (Acts 13:38-39).

 2). **Justification is a purposed gift!** God in the covenant of grace purposed to save and to justify guilty sinners in Jesus Christ before the foundation of the world (Rom.9:11; Rev.13:8; 2Tim. 1:9). "*It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy*" (Rom. 9:16).

3). **Justification is a purchased gift!** The justification of God’s elect came at a great price to God Himself. He gave Himself for the sins of His chosen people (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 9:26). God has purchased the church with His own blood and justified His elect at Calvary (Acts 20:28).

4). **Justification is a permanent gift!** Once justified, always justified. A believer can never be "unjustified," because justification in Christ covers past, present and future sins (1John 1:7); giving the believer in Christ Jesus, complete deliverance (Gal.1:4; Rom.11:26), full assurance from all condemnation (Heb. 6:18-20) and an everlasting righteousness freely imputed (Rom. 8:1; 4:6; 5:19; Dan. 9:24).

*Tom Harding.*