

IMPARTED SIN

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:17-20

There is imputed sin and there is also imparted sin, that results in the sin nature. This we receive from our parents. We are born with Adam's sin nature. We know this because children lie, cheat, steal, etc. We do not have to teach them to do these things; they come by it by nature. So, this is our sin nature. The more man expresses himself, the more he sins. We are sinners by nature and by choice. Sin is merely a symptom of a disease - fruit of the root - expression of our nature. This explains man's condition. We are sinners by nature, and as a result we are spiritually dead (separated from God), have an evil nature, and are corrupt. We are not sinners because we sin, but because of sin (sin nature) we are sinners. Matthew 15:18 states, "But those things that proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man."

We are sinners by choice and as a result we are guilty and condemned. We read, "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a), "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4b), "and sin when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15b). We are sinful, guilty, condemned, lost, doomed to spiritual death, headed for judgement and punishment, and banishment from God.

The fact of sin and its consequences, points out very clearly our need for salvation. The question arises: "How can this salvation be provided?"

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Notes:

HOW SALVATION WAS PROVIDED

Scripture Reading: Romans 3:23-26

The following facts of sin point to the need for salvation:

Scope - Universal Ecclesiastes 7:20, Romans 3:9-23, Romans 5:12

Character - Does not meet God's standard I John 5:17, I John 3:4, Jeremiah 17:9, Isaiah 53:6, Ephesians 2:2-3, James 4:17, Romans 14:23.

Consequences - Death Genesis 2:16-17, Ezekiel 18:4, James 1:15, Romans 5:12, Romans 6:23

We have a righteous, just, and holy God who cannot tolerate sin. He loves the sinner, but He cannot forget sin. He must judge sin. God in His infinite wisdom and grace provided the way that He could be just and justifier. Romans 3:23-26 explains this action by God. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."

God provided a way that sin would be judged and His righteousness maintained and also show mercy and love to the sinner and forgive his sin. Of course this entailed God sending His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die for our sins-- see II Corinthians 5:21.

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Notes:

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH*Scripture Reading: Galatians 3:13*

Through the death on the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, the sin question has been taken care of once for all. "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Galatians 3:13). He died in our place because of our sin (Also see Hebrews 2:9 and I Peter 3:18.). Some important facts about the death of our Lord Jesus Christ are:

1. His death was foretold by God.

Isaiah 53:8, "He was cut off out of the land of the living."
 Daniel 9:26, "After threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for Himself." Zechariah 13:7, "Smite the Shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered." I Corinthians 15:3, "... how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures."

2. His death was appointed by God.

Acts 2:23, "Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain."

3. His death was voluntary.

John 10:18, "No man taketh it (My Life) from me, but I lay it down Myself."

4. His death was substitutionary for all.

II Corinthians 5:14, "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:," Romans 5:6, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

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*Notes:***SOME PROVISIONS OF CHRIST'S DEATH***Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 15:1-3*

Just a few of the provisions of Christ's death are:

Salvation - I Corinthians 15:2-3, "By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins..."

Justification - Romans 5:9, "Much more then, being justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him."

Redemption - Ephesians 1:7, "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."

Reconciliation - Romans 5:10, "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son..."

Propitiation - I John 2:2, "And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

Sanctification - Hebrews 10:10, "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Christ once for all."

Substitution - II Corinthians 5:21, "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."

Ransom - I Timothy 2:6, "Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."

Death Conquered - I Corinthians 15:56,57, "The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

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Notes:

DEATH ONLY PART OF THE RECORD

Scripture Reading: Romans 4:25

The death of Christ is only part of the record. Romans 4:25 tells us that not only was He "delivered for our offenses," but that He was "raised again for (on account of) our justification." The resurrection of the Lord Jesus is a very important part of the gospel of grace.

The following are some of the important facts about the resurrection of Christ:

- Declares Him to be the Son of God - Romans 1:4
- Death is defeated - Romans 6:9
- Proof of our justification - Romans 4:25
- Proof our sins have been paid for - I Corinthians 15:17,20
- Provides for forgiveness of our sins - Colossians 2:12-13
- Assures our resurrection - I Corinthians 15:20-23, Romans 8:11, II Corinthians 4:14
- Imparts power to the believer - Ephesians 1:19,20

God so loved us that He sent His only Son into this sin sick world to die for us in order that we might be forgiven. "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). The death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is the centerpiece of the gospel of grace. The simple gospel is that Christ died for our sins and arose again (See I Corinthians 15:1-4). This is the fact of the matter; now what are we to do about it?

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Notes:

THE MEANS OF SALVATION

Scripture Reading: II Corinthians 5:21

The fact of sin and its consequences and what God has done about it in sending His Son to die for us, will do little good, until we appropriate it as our own. We must believe the gospel. We must come to that place where we ask "Why did Christ die?" We have seen that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a), "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4b), and "sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). Why did Christ die? He was no sinner. He was "as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:19). He "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). He "did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth" (I Peter 2:22). Why did Christ die? That was our death, He died. "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II Corinthians 5:21).

We can believe that Christ died for sin, but until we make it personal, we have not really seen Christ as our Saviour. Oh what joy and relief it brings when I see that Christ died in my place for my sin and that I can be saved by trusting in Him.

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Notes:

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:8-9

The gospel is explained in I Corinthians 15:1-4. A key part of this explanation of the gospel is that we must believe. This has always been the case throughout the ages. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). "He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not, is condemned already because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). We must believe the gospel; appropriate the finished work of Christ as our own. We must put our trust in Him, for He alone is trustworthy. Where does this faith come from? "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). We are to accept what God tells us in His Word and believe it.

To believe is to be persuaded, to rely upon, and to trust in someone. God alone is trustworthy. "If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful (trustworthy): He cannot deny Himself" (II Timothy 2:13). We can depend on God when He states He will save us upon believing.

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Notes:

GRACE AND MERCY

Scripture Reading: Titus 3:4-7

The gospel of the grace of God is that we are saved by grace through faith, alone. We are not saved because of who we are or what we have done. We are nobody and we have done nothing worthy of God's salvation. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9). "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Romans 4:5). "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

Grace is receiving from God that which we do not deserve. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). Mercy is not receiving from God that which we do deserve. God in His great grace sent His son to die in our place, so that He might freely give us salvation. He gave us that which we do not deserve. This is grace. We do deserve judgment, wrath and Hell. However, because of Christ's finished work, we will not receive what we deserve, because Christ bore this judgment in our place. That is God's mercy. We appropriate all of this by faith alone.

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