

Sermon Notes from Pastor Cornelius Schelling 5-24-09

What is a Christian

What a Christian is, is different than what a Christian does. What a Christian does is only a reflection of who he really is. The Bible tells that we will know who is of the flesh and who is of the Spirit by the fruit they bear.

Lets first of all look at what is a Christian is because in today's world there seems to be much confusion about that. All who profess to be Christians are not.

John 3:1-6

Jesus said that people who are born into this world they are flesh and Jesus said that to be born again that man had to be born of the Spirit or that man could not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

John 14:6 Jesus here was answering Thomas question which was in regard to verse one, two and three. Jesus said that no man can come or go to the father or to the place I prepared for them, but by me.

Matthew 5:17 Jesus came to fulfill the law not to destroy it but to add to it and Jesus said a man must be born of the Spirit to enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Hebrews 9:22 said without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin or the removal of sin.

Now that Jesus is the only way. What is that way to eternal life? Romans 10:9-10,13 is the only way to enter into heaven under or in the new covenant. Heb 8:6

2 Corinthians 5:19 is the ministry of reconciliation and the word of reconciliation given to us who are born again and this is what we are to tell them those who are lost and going to hell.

Vs 19 That is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing (or holding) their trespasses to them. Vs 21 For He made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Romans told us that if you will believe this in your heart and will confess Jesus as Lord of your life you shall be saved. Well how do I do that? Verse thirteen tells us that Whosoever shall call upon the Lord shall be saved or we could say it this way if you will ask Jesus to come into your heart you will be saved or receive eternal life. Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us that there is not one thing any man can do of himself to be saved because it is by faith or believing in or accepting the redemptive work of Christ (his birth, death, burial, resurrection) that we are born again.

When Jesus said I am the only way, you have to lay aside all other concepts or teaching or all other thoughts about being saved, you must set aside all other forms of religion pertaining to going to heaven. Don't add anything to it and a lot of people do. For an example they say I believe God would never send a good man to hell that is adding something to it. Some think well if live the best life I can God wouldn't send me to hell is adding something to it when Jesus said I am the way the truth and the Life and no man comes (that includes everyone) to the father except through me, Don't add anything to it!!

When man becomes a new creature in Christ according to 2 Corinthians 5:17 all old things are passed away and all things have become new.

For those of us who are new creature in Christ, Colossians 1:13 has become a reality to us. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 2: 13-15

NCB—God stripped the spiritual rulers and powers of their authority. With the cross, he won the victory and showed the world that they were powerless.

The devil has no power he is powerless. Speaking of those who are born again.

I Corinthians 2:6 However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

Strong's Concordance G2673 katargeo - Greek word for nothing definition: From G2596 and G691; to be (render) entirely idle (useless), literally or figuratively: - abolish, cease, cumber, deliver, destroy, do away, become (make) of no (none, without) effect, fail, loose, bring (come) to nought, put away (down), vanish away, make void.

Galatians 3:13 The curse is powerless. At this point in your life the devil was made powerless against you by the resurrection power of Jesus Christ because of the blood of the lamb and by the word of your testimony.

Now don't add anything to this or take anything away from it, stand in it, it is your inheritance.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

Now that we are born again we need to work out our salvation.

Look at Ephesians 4: 22 Put off the former life style or the way you used to live and change the way you talk.

Vs 23 Renew you mind according to the knowledge of Christ. Colossians 3:10 Romans 12:2

Vs 24 Put on the new man which is created in righteousness and holiness.

Notice verse 27 Neither give place to the devil. This also tells us we can give place to the devil. What we need to understand is it's not up to God to keep the devil out because he told us to work out our own salvation.

James 4:7 This is a powerful verse and if we will do this verse we will keep the devil powerless in our lives.

Remember that Jesus taught his disciples in Matthew chapter 5 through chapter 7 how to live a victorious life and how to be successful in ministry.

Matthew 18:18 Jesus taught his disciples how to keep the devil in a defeated position.

Luke 10:19

Ephesians 6:10-17 Put on the armour and keep on the armour and you will keep the enemy powerless.

Last of all Philippians 2:9-10 Jesus has given us a name the name of Jesus that is above every name in three places,.

1. Heaven
2. Earth
3. Under the earth which means Satan's kingdom.

Stand in this and don't add anything to it.

II Corinthians 10:4-5 Cast down any and every thought that would tell you different and you will keep the devil in his powerless position ineffective against you.