

Volume 14 Issue 18

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A ROARING LION

Eden

1. A place of sorrow (Gen. 3:16-17).

2. A place of willing choices (Adam and Eve were not forced to sin, Gen. 2:16-17, 3:1-6).

3. God's word was spoken here (Gen. 2:15-18, 3:8-19).

4. The guilty were expelled from this garden (Gen. 3:24).

5. The actions in this garden resulted in souls lost (Gen. 2:17, 3:3; Rom. 5:12).

6. Though paradise, spiritual death resulted from the actions taken in this place (Gen. 3:3; Rom. 5:12, 6:23).

7. Those in this garden were living (I Cor. 15:45).

Gethsemane

1. A place of sorrow (Mk. 14:34; Lk. 22:45).

2. A place of willing choices (Christ was not forced to die, Matt. 26:53-54; Jn. 18:6-9, 10:17-18).

3. God's word was spoken here (Matt. 26:38-39, 41-42, 44, 50-56; Jn. 18:6-9).

4. The Innocent was led from this garden (Matt. 26:57; Jn. 18:13).

5. The actions in this garden resulted in souls saved (Rom. 5:8-9; Matt. 20:28; Heb. 2:9).

6. Though a place of sorrow, spiritual life resulted from the actions taken in this place (Jn. 10:10, 20:31; Jn. 3:16; Rom. 6:22).

7. The One in this garden was life-giving (I Cor. 15:45). — Jarrod Jacobs

Salvation is the top priority of man. Jesus made this clear as He asked, *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Matt. 16:26). Are you saved? One cannot be saved unless he believes on Christ, repents of sin, confesses Christ and is

baptized (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38, 8:35-38; etc.). Yet, there are unsaved people who have convinced themselves that they are saved. How does this occur?

Saved By Morality/Good Deeds

Some think that all a person needs to do to be saved is to be a good person. If they have done more “good” deeds than bad, they think they are saved. Is this what the Bible teaches? While it is necessary to live a moral life, morality itself does not save a person. The Bible teaches us that morality is not enough to save in a couple of ways: First, remember that Cornelius, a very good person, was lost until he obeyed the Lord (Acts 10:48). He sent for Peter so he could learn what to do to be saved (Acts 10:6, 11:13-14). Thus, the fact that he was a good moral man before hearing the gospel did not

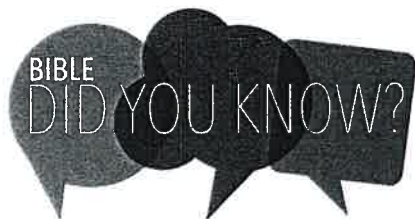
save him.

The Bible also makes clear that the works that I do are insufficient to save. Titus 3:3-6 teach this truth. We cannot work or earn our way into Heaven. Jesus taught that when we do all that He has said, we are still “*unprofitable*” (Lk. 17:10).

Saved By Faith Only

Some convince people they are saved by teaching that we can be saved by faith alone. Some might encourage us to pray a prayer or “accept Jesus,” whatever this means to them. Yet, at the end of the day, the doctrine is salvation by faith alone or faith only. Is this how one can be saved? The Bible answers “No.” When we study the Bible, we will see there is not one thing “alone” that saves anyone. A cursory reading of the Bible will show that no less than twenty-five things are said to play a part in

salvation, whether from God’s “side” or man’s “side” of the discussion (Lk. 1:77; Matt. 1:21; Acts 16:17; Rom. 1:16, 10:9-10; II Cor. 7:10; Titus 2:11; Heb. 5:9; Eph. 2:8; II Pet. 3:15; Acts 2:40; I Cor. 1:21; I Pet. 3:21; Matt. 24:13; II Tim. 3:15; Acts 2:21; Rom. 3:25, 5:10, 8:24; II Thess. 2:10; Titus 3:5; Gal. 3:8; Matt. 12:36-37; II Thess. 2:14; I Tim. 2:4). In fact, the only time in the Bible where the phrase “faith only” is found, James says that it does not justify (Jas. 2:24)! Let us not be fooled into thinking that our good deeds, faith only, or faith alone, can save the unsaved. This is not what God teaches
– Jarrod Jacobs



“Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it than a house full of feasting with strife. A servant who acts wisely will rule over a son who acts shamefully, and will share in the inheritance among brothers. The refining pot is for silver and the furnace is for gold, but the LORD tests hearts. An evildoer listens to wicked lips; a liar pays attention to a destructive tongue.”

Proverbs 17:1-4



MONTHLY CHALLENGE

DIRECTIONS: Each first Sunday of the month, we will have challenges that you should attempt to complete by the end of the month. If we all, as members, complete these challenges, our church will grow in spirit and in number.

1) Planting and Watering Challenge

1 Corinthians 3:6 "I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth." We had a great opportunity to invite others to hear the gospel during our gospel meeting with Devin Roush. It's time to do a follow up. Of those who accepted your invitation to come and be with us, try some watering following up on them. Maybe you can ask them if they've had time to consider everything they heard and know how they are feeling about everything. See if they have any questions and possibly follow up with a bible study. Have anyone you spoke with about coming who didn't come at all? Let them know the lesson topics that were presented and see if there is one that might interest them. There's still time to water!

2) USING YOUR BIBLE IN THE WORLD

Share the following verses with someone who does not attend this congregation at least twice this month:

John 10:7-17

"So Jesus said to them again, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again.'"