Lesson Six

Burned Up Works Or A Lost Soul?

The ***CORRECT*** answer to this ***QUESTION*** may determine where you spend eternity. To get this answer incorrect may doom your soul.

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

[10] According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

[11] For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[12] Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

[13] Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

[14] If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

[15] If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. **1 Corinthians 3:9-15**

The interpretation of this passage by the Once Saved Always Saved people has ***NEVER CEASED*** to amaze me. It certainly seems that ***ANY*** person of even ***AVERAGE*** intelligence should know the difference between ***SIN AND WORKS***. There is no desire here to sound sarcastic or haughty. This failure to discern between ***SIN*** and ***WORKS*** is really amazing.

The Hebrew words translated **sin** mean: A ***CRIME***, a fault, a trespass, etc. The Greek words translated sin mean: To miss the mark, to ***OFFEND***, a ***TRESPASS***.

In the Merriam Webster Classics Dictionary the word **sin** means: offence, transgression, etc.

The Hebrew word translated **works** means: ***MINISTRY***, employment, ***INDUSTRY***, occupation. The Greek word translated **works** means: ***DEEDS***, doing, labor, work.

The Merriam Webster's Classic Dictionary tells us that **work** means to toil, labor, perform a function, or do a job. Let's go back to the OSAS explanation of I Corinthians 3:9-15. Their understanding is that if a person dies who is ***STILL LIVING*** in

sin, after they have been saved, all of the bad, or sin, will be ***BURNED*** up, but the one standing in the judgment will be ***SAVED***, so as by fire.

We need to emphasize here that we are not saved from ***SIN BY FIRE***, but rather ***BY THE BLOOD*** of Jesus as by grace we put our faith in the work of Jesus Christ, and the cleansing of His Blood.

[8] For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

[9] Not of works, lest any man should boast.

[10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. **Ephesians 2:8-10**

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with **HIS OWN BLOOD**. **Acts 20:28**

[24] Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

[25] 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;*

[26] To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. **Romans 3:24-26**

In whom we have redemption **THROUGH HIS BLOOD**, *the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.* **Ephesians 1:7**

But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. **Ephesians 2:13**

There are so many scriptures that let us know we are washed from our sins by the blood of Jesus that we do not want to use all the space in this chapter to print them. But it cannot be emphasized too much that Paul is not talking in I Corinthians 3:12-15 about ***SINS*** being ***BURNED*** up, but ***UNPROFITABLE WORKS*** being ***BURNED*** up.

[18] Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

[19] But with the **PRECIOUS BLOOD** *of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.* **1 Peter 1:18-19**

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins **IN HIS OWN BLOOD**. **Revelation 1:5**

There will ***BE NO SIN*** that will enter Heaven and stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ that Paul is describing in I Corinthians, chapter 3. It should be noted that this is not the only place where this Judgment Seat is mentioned.

[10] But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

[11] For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

[12] So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Romans 14:10-12

[9] Wherefore we **LABOUR**, *that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.*

[10] For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things **DONE IN HIS BODY**, *according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

[11] Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

2 Corinthians 5:9-11

Paul speaks in these scriptures about a hardworking ministry that will ***PLEASE OUR LORD*** Notice that Paul says, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." Even though the child of God has made Heaven, it will still be a ***FEARFUL THING*** to stand before the glorified Christ. There will be no ***SMUG*** or haughty self-righteousness there. It will be a terrifying experience. Even those apostles who walked with Christ on the earth were ***TERRIFIED*** in the presence of the glorified Christ.

[1] And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

[2] And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

[3] And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

[4] Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

[5] While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

[6] And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were ***sore afraid****.*

[7] And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and **BE NOT AFRAID**.

Matthew 17:1-7

[3] And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

[4] And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

[5] And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

[6] And he **TREMBLING** *and* ***astonished*** *said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.*

[7] And the men which journeyed with him **STOOD SPEECHLESS**, *hearing a voice, but seeing no man.* **Acts 9:3-7**

[12] And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw

seven golden candlesticks;

[13] And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

[14] His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

[15] And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

[16] And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

[17] And when I saw him, I **FELL AT HIS FEET AS DEAD**. *And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:*

[18] I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. **Revelation 1:12-18**

It is a ***DANGEROUS DOCTRINE*** that teaches a man can die in his sins and ***STILL BE ACCEPTED*** into Heaven and given eternal life. In fact, it is not only dangerous, it is ***COMPLETELY DISHONEST***.

We will talk in another chapter of this danger, but for now let us close with this thought.

Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, ***Every one that*** **DOETH EVIL IS GOOD** *in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?* **Malachi 2:17**