



LIFE LESSONS FROM THE MASTER CARPENTER

WEEK 4— Eternally Saved

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-5 and Colossians 2:13. What does it mean that a person born into this world is spiritually dead? Read Romans 5:12. What is the cause of this death? Read Romans 6:23. What do you think it means that the “wages of sin” is death?

Answer – To be spiritually dead first of all means to be separated from the life that is in God. It means that there is nothing inside of man that can please God. A spiritually dead person cannot do anything that is spiritually pleasing to God. The reason we are born into this world spiritually dead goes back to when Adam and Eve ate from the tree God had prohibited. God had told them they would die on the day that ate of the fruit, and that is what happened, they died spiritually. We all are born sinful in nature because of their sin. When Romans 6:23 says the wages of sin is death, it means that the result of sin is death and that death is the only thing that can pay for our sin. If we have to pay for our own sin, we would die and spend eternity separated from God. That is why Jesus had to die in order to pay for our sin.

2. In the story of Nicodemus in John 3, what did Jesus tell Nicodemus must happen since man is spiritually dead if he is going to go to heaven? In verses 16-18, what did Jesus say is the way for a person to obtain this new birth? What does it mean to believe in Jesus? Exactly what is this new birth?

Answer—Jesus said that what must happen for a spiritually dead person to have eternal life is that they receive a new birth from God. The way that this new birth is obtained, according to verses 16-18 is when a person believes in Jesus as their savior. To believe in Jesus means to put all of your trust in him as your only hope of getting to heaven, that you stop trusting what you can do that is good (since spiritually dead people can do nothing good in God’s sight) to earn God’s favor and trust only in what Christ did for you. When you do this, you are given this new birth which is actually that the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you and brings your dead spirit back to life.

3. If a person trusts Christ as savior, is there anything they can do, once they have received a new birth, that would cause them to lose their salvation and go to hell? If so, what would that be? Do you know of a scripture that says that? Read Romans 8:31-38. According to this

passage, what do you think it means when it says that nothing can separate you from the love of Christ? If a person goes to hell, are they separated from the love of Christ?

Answer— The answer to this is no, there is nothing a person can do once they are a believer that would cause them to lose eternal life. If they did, they never had eternal life. Whatever response you might get to this question, as you read Romans 8:31-38, ask this question: When it says in this passage that “nothing in all creation” can separate you from the love of Christ, would mankind and everything we do fit into “something in all creation”? If so, then is there anything we could do, as part of God’s creation, that would separate us from the love of Christ? When it says neither life or death or the present or the future, nor angels or demons can separate us from the love of Christ, does not this description cover any possible sin we could commit? The answer is yes, there is nothing you could do to separate yourself from the love of Christ because you have been saved from the penalty of sin through the death of Christ. There is no sin you can commit that the death of Christ did not pay for. If you went to hell, you would then be separated from the love of Christ because you are then suffering the wrath of God.

4. Read John 10:27-30. In this passage, who is Jesus speaking about, who are the sheep? What does it say Jesus gives to his sheep? What exactly does it mean to have “eternal life”? If a person were given eternal life and then did not live eternally, would they ever have had eternal life? What does it say will never happen to a sheep that has been given eternal life? What do you think this means? For a sheep to be “plucked” (removed) from God’s hand, or to remove themselves from his hand, what would they need to be? Is that possible?

Answer—In this passage, believers, those who trust Christ as savior, are the sheep. It says in this passage that Jesus gives eternal life to his sheep. The way in which we are given eternal life is that we are placed into the body of Christ, so since the person we are now part of lives eternally, so do we. If a person has eternal life, this means that they will live eternally. If a person does not live eternally, then they never had eternal life. So once you have eternal life, you cannot ever die, which is exactly what going to hell is: eternal death. To emphasize this point, it says that if you are a sheep and have been given eternal life, then you will never perish, you will never experience eternal death in hell. For a sheep to be plucked out of God’s hand, or to remove themselves from God’s hand, they would have to be more powerful than God because it says God is “greater than all” and no one can remove you from his hand. So then no, this is not a possibility. If you are a believer, then you are stuck, you will have to go to heaven because it is no longer in your power to decide, you are kept saved by God’s power.

5. Read John 6:37-40. Who do you think verse 37 is talking about? Do you think it is the same as the sheep from chapter 10? What does it say in verse 39 is God’s will? What do you think it means that Jesus will “lose none of all he has given me”? What does verse 40 say Jesus will do for everyone who believes in him?

Answer—Those who come to Christ are the sheep, it is referring to believers. Verse 39 says that it is God’s will that Christ would never lose anyone who comes to him but will raise them up to eternal life in the future resurrection when Christ comes back. If you have trusted Christ as savior, he will never lose you, you cannot go to hell. If you have trusted Christ as savior and someday you wind up in hell, this verse is a lie and Christ was not unable to keep from losing you. In verse 40 it says that if you have believed you will be given eternal life and will be raised up to live with him forever, this is why you can know you are going to heaven when you die, God promises it over and over as we have seen in all of the above passages.