PART 1 / The Incredible Good News of the Gospel

Lesson 1 - Why You Need a Savior



1. Who created man and for what purpose? Genesis 1:26

2. What did God do after He formed man out of the dust of the ground? Genesis 2:7

Man became a living soul, or being, when God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. He was called "Adam," which means mankind1.

3. Out of what did God create Adam's wife? Genesis 2:21-24

God created this world by "the word of His mouth," except for the first man and woman. Adam (mankind) was formed by the hands of God out of dust; and Eve (mother of all) was formed out of Adam's rib. Out of this one couple the entire human race came into existence. Therefore, the human race, to which we all belong, is the proliferation of Adam's life (see Acts 17:26). For further discussion about the creation of mankind and related issues, see Lesson 14 and its supplement.

4. What did God command Adam not to eat from in the Garden of Eden? Genesis 2:15-17

Because God created mankind in Adam with a free will, He had to give them an alternative choice. Loyalty to Him meant the life God gave them could continue forever. Turning their backs to Him meant turning their backs to life itself, because God is the source of life.

1Every time an individual is born, it is actually just a multiplication of Adam's one life. For this reason David said of himself, "My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret (i.e., at Creation), and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth (i.e., from the dust of the ground, when he was made "in Adam" -

Psalm 139:15)."

5. How many were affected by Adam's one sin? Romans 5:12

Since the fall of Adam took place before he had any children, the entire human race was still in him when he sinned. As a result, all humanity suffers the consequences of that original sin, even though we are not guilty or held responsible for the Fall.

6. What reversed humanity's status from condemnation to justification? Romans 5:18

☹ ☺

Justification (to be declared righteous) comes as a gift from God because of the righteous act of one man - the perfect life and the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. This is the good news of the gospel.

7. As a result of the Fall, how many are righteous or good in God's eyes? Romans 3:9-12

The word "under" means to be ruled or dominated by. It was a term used to refer to slaves in Bible days. Just as a slave had no freedom but was ruled by his master, so also all humanity is "under sin," slaves to it (see Romans 7:14). This is the universal sin problem and our only hope of deliverance is a Savior.

8. How many stand guilty or condemned under God's law? Romans 3:19

9. Through whom only do we have redemption from sin? Romans 3:23, 24

The Bible is clear; man's only hope of salvation is Jesus Christ.

10. What does David say about himself, which is also true of all of us? Psalm 51:5

Sin, the principle of self, is a condition or a state that we all inherit from birth. It is something we are born with because of Adam's Fall. There is nothing we can do to escape it. Our only hope is in the redemption offered to us in Jesus Christ.

11. What do the wicked do from birth? Psalm 58:3

Because of our sinful state we are wicked and go astray from birth. But since God offers us salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ, we can all escape this sin problem. That is the whole purpose of the gospel.

12. Like sheep, what two things have we all done? Isaiah 53:6

Because of our sinful condition we are by nature self-centered. We go astray and follow our own way from the moment we are born. It is from this condition that Jesus came to save us.

13. Why can we not trust our own hearts? Jeremiah 17:9

Even our own hearts deceive us into believing we can save ourselves by our good works. This is where many go wrong. A good example is Peter, one of Christ's own disciples (see John 18:15-27).

14. What does Jesus say about our own self-evaluation? Revelation 3:17

Most of us do not know how sinful we actually are. This is why God has to first convict us of our total sinfulness before we can appreciate His gift of salvation.

15. Instead of the interests of Jesus, how many seek their own way? Philippians 2:21

This problem of selfishness is inherent in every human being. Even babies demand their own way from birth.

16. What can truly set us free from our sin problem? John 8:32

17. When we commit sin even against our wishes, what does it prove? John 8:34

18. In whom only is found freedom from sin's slavery? John 8:36

PRAISE THE LORD!

Jesus is the only answer to our sin problem. Without Him we remain slaves to sin and the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

19. Why did Jesus come into this world? 1 Timothy 1:15

Even the great apostle Paul admits he is the chief of sinners whom Jesus came to save. Do you believe that Jesus can save you, too?

20. What does the Bible have to say to those who claim they are without sin? 1 John 1:8

21. Of what do we accuse God when we say we have not sinned? 1 John 1:10

The only reason God's Word points us to our sin problem is not to condemn, but to show us our need of a Savior. Once we recognize this fact, the gospel of Jesus Christ becomes incredible good news!

22. What two things does God do if we confess our sins to Him? 1 John 1:9

Most people think they are sinners because they have committed sins; but the fact is we commit sins because we are born sinners. The only hope of escaping this universal sin problem is Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. These Bible studies become exciting as we discover God’s plan of salvation for the entire human race in Jesus Christ. In our next study, we shall learn about God's unconditional love, the basis for our salvation. Don’t miss it!

My Response to Lesson 1

• Do you accept the Biblical truth that you were born a sinner, incapable of saving yourself, and that your only hope of salvation is in Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world?

Response: _____

Notes

More Notes

Savior of the World Bible Course, Copyright © 1997, 1999, 2000

See Introduction for additional acknowledgments.

Originally printed in the USA by

SW/Gospel Publishing

www.swgospel.com

You are authorized to reproduce this lesson, as is, for the furtherance of the gospel, but not for personal or other gain.