

DEBUNKING THE "LORDLESS GOSPEL"

Many today are propagating a "SAVING FAITH" that is VOID OF REPENTANCE or that redefines REPENTANCE as not involving a CHANGE OF MIND with regard to sin. They fail to see that a CHANGE OF MIND with regard to sin and a CHANGE OF MIND with regard to Christ are inseparably linked in SAVING FAITH.

Many stress the WORK (cross) of Christ but often neglect the PERSON (Lordship) of Christ. To them faith is merely a PASSIVE concept and not an ACTIVE concept, and so they neglect to put an emphasis on the WILL. They claim a DEAD faith is a saving faith or that you can become an UNBELIEVING believer.

While denying it, many evangelicals in reality hold to a view that sees mere INTELLECTUAL ASSENT as equivalent to saving faith. Receiving forgiveness is stressed, but not receiving the GIVER for WHO He is! Many want a Savior but not a Lord! They want heaven ultimately, but in the meantime they don't want Jesus interfering with their life.

Lordless gospel advocates seem to claim that saving faith may in all practical terms remain alone. While the reformers affirmed that FAITH AND FAITH ALONE SAVES, BUT THE FAITH THAT SAVES DOES NOT REMAIN ALONE. Thus, they fail to realize that the GRACE of God that brings SALVATION also produces SANCTIFICATION in the life of every believer to one degree or another (cf. Heb. 10:14).

Hebrews 10:14 (NKJV)

14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Note that you can't claim the first part of the verse if the second part is not also a reality. You can't claim "perfected forever" if you are not being sanctified. The first inevitably results in the second.

The pseudo-faith that a bogus or incomplete gospel fosters is of GREAT concern! To add works of any kind to grace is to be condemned in the strongest of terms! But likewise, a faith that claims to be saving but doesn't involve a change of mind which in turn results in a change of nature and therefore a change of life is to be equally condemned. The result is the same. People embracing a false gospel go to an ETERNAL HELL!

James is not in violation of Paul's theology. The evidence of salvation which produces the "know" of 1 John 2:3 and 3:14 based on keeping Christ's

commands and the reality of brotherly love, is not in contradiction to the "know" of assurance in 1 John 5:13. And note that the assurance of 1 John 5:13 builds on the what has gone before it in the letter.

The FREE GIFT of salvation in Isaiah 55:1 is not in violation of the REPENTANCE required in Isaiah 55:6-7. Justification by faith in Romans chapter 4 is in complete harmony with calling on the NAME of the Lord and confessing Christ as Lord in Romans 10:9-10 and 13. The "my Lord and my God" of John 20:28 harmonizes perfectly with the BELIEVING IN HIM of John 3:16.

The UNIVERSAL call to make DISCIPLES in Matthew 28:19 is not in conflict with the fact that it is a SALVATION context. The "by grace through faith" of Ephesians 2:8-9 results in the "unto good works" of Ephesians 2:10. Jesus is LORD! Jesus is SAVIOR! SAVING FAITH PERSONALLY EMBRACES BOTH TRUTHS FROM THE HEART!

"The safest road to hell is the gradual one - the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts."
– **C.S. Lewis**

This description of Lewis accurately portrays an anemic Lordless gospel that calls for no repentance and doesn't deal with the Lordship truth of Jesus Christ.

Charles Spurgeon soundly refuted a "Lordless gospel" saying:

"If the professed convert distinctly and deliberately declares that he knows the Lord's will but does not mean to attend to it, you are not to pamper his presumption, but it is your duty to assure him that he is not saved. Do not suppose that the Gospel is magnified or God glorified by going to the worldlings and telling them that they may be saved at this moment by simply accepting Christ as their Savior, while they are wedded to their idols, and their hearts are still in love with sin. If I do so I tell them a lie, pervert the Gospel, insult Christ, and turn the grace of God into lasciviousness." – **Charles Spurgeon**

"It is interesting to notice that the Apostles preached the Lordship of Christ. The word *Savior* occurs only twice in the Acts of the Apostles ([Acts 5:31](#), [13:23](#)). On the other hand it is amazing to notice the title 'Lord' is mentioned 92 times; 'Lord Jesus' 13 times; and 'The Lord Jesus Christ' 6 times in the same book. The Gospel is: 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.'" – **Charles Spurgeon**