

THE LIVING ROOM COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022

THIS WE BELIEVE (PART 5) SALVATION

Monte Ingersoll

"You were dead through the trespasses and sins,² in which you once lived following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³ All of us once lived among them, in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of our flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath like everyone else. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ -- by grace you have been saved -- ⁶ and raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not the result of works so that no one may boast." -Ephesians 2:1-9

What does it mean to be dead?

Paul says we were dead in our trespasses and sin, dead with respect to God and God's kind of life and God's kingdom. He says, "We were by nature children or objects of wrath."

What is the Doctrine of Original Sin?

-It does not mean that non-Christians are incapable of generous or kind thoughts or acts.

-It does mean that sin affects every single one of us.

-Sin is missing the mark, leaving the path, straying from the fold. It is a hard heart and a stiff neck. Sin is blind eyes, deaf ears, loose tongues and violent hands. It is a beast crouching at the door. It is a seductress whispering for you to betray all that is wholesome and good. It promises everything and offers nothing. Above all, it is death, death of character, death of virtue, death of truth, death of community, death of the soul.

-Sin, cannot be defeated by human cleverness, by more education, by political action, by therapy or by economics. Salvation will have to come from the outside. And praise God it has.

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

What does God do when He makes us alive? What is the unseen, invisible work of God that makes salvation possible?

1. God _____ people to Himself.

"When I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself, He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die." -John 12:32-33

Prevenient Grace

Prevenient - That which goes before or anticipates something.

2. The _____ power of God.

"Woe is me, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips, and I've seen the living God." -Isaiah 6:5

3. God _____ people to repent.

"Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret. But worldly sorrow brings death." -2 Corinthians 7:10

"There's a way that seems right to a man, but it ends in death." -Proverbs 14:12

"Broad is the way that leads to destruction, but small is the gate and narrow the way that leads to life." -Matthew 7:14

"If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the Law, blameless." -Philippians 3:4b-6

"Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things." -Philippians 3:7-8

4. God _____ people.

"But when the kindness and love of God, our Savior, appeared, He saved us. Not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal." -Titus 3:4-5

The primary synonym in the New Testament for salvation is life. Salvation is the offer of life -- of life now, of life forever with God.