

#13 FORUM POST OF THE END OF THE AGES & CONVERSION

You said:

So you think that **every man born** will be "made perfect" even after JESUS clearly explained that some men were **NEVER MEANT** to "perceive" the Gospel or "understand" the Gospel or "be converted" or "have their sins forgiven".

When Jesus **PROMISED** that some men were **NEVER MEANT** to "have their sins forgiven" He teaches a doctrine different from what (it seems) you are suggesting.

Mar 4:10-12 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; LEST AT ANY TIME they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Most of mankind is not meant to be saved in this age. They were not chosen from the foundation of the world to be First-Fruits. Christ is only harvesting His First-Fruit in this present age. The remaining harvest of mankind comes at the consummation of the final age (the Lake of Fire age).

Christ even said this to one of the Pharisees who crucified Him:

Matt 21:31 Which of the two was obeying his father?" They replied, "The first, of course." Then Jesus explained his meaning: "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.

Since our salvation is 100% the work of Christ, it is not a matter of "if" we will be saved, but only a matter of "when". This Pharisee, who Christ was speaking to, will be saved at the end of the final age.

The Nation of Israel (by and large) was not meant to be saved in this age. They were used by Christ so that He would die on the cross.

1Cor 2:7-8 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Mar 4:10-12 which you quoted is speaking about what Paul said above. Christ spoke in spiritual language so that the Nation of Israel (princes of this world) would not be able to understand Him.

Isa 28: 10-12 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another tongue (spiritual language) will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

If this had not been the case, they would not have crucified Him. They did not take Christ's life, He laid it down.

You asked:

Do you imagine that Jesus was LYING when He taught the unsaved will suffer eternal torment? And Jesus was somehow mistaken when He taught some men were NEVER MEANT "to have their sins forgiven"?

Their "torment" is spiritual (mental anguish), not physical. The fire is not literal fire. The spiritual symbol "Fire" means Christ's righteous judgment which purifies us. And His judgment is not "eternal" as you imagine.

The Greek word "aion" means "age". In the verse below, when it says "aion aion" it means for the age of the ages:

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day for the age of the ages (the final age).

In **Mat 25:46**, the verse uses aion's adjective form of "aionios" which means age-enduring.

Mat 25:46 And these shall go away into age-enduring punishment: but the righteous into age-enduring life.

The Elect receive life during the ages (part of their blessing) but all others will only have life at the end of the final age. Once the last person is saved, the "ages" will come to an end and Christ will deliver up the Kingdom of Heaven to the Father. God will then be "all in all" and Christ's reign will come to an end.

1Cor 15: 25-28 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for the ages of the ages (aion aion).

If "aion aion" should be translated as "for ever and ever", then why would Paul say that His reign comes to an end?

"Aion" was translated as "for ever and ever" to support the false teaching of eternal hell. Hell is not eternal nor is it literal fire. The Lake of Fire is the righteous judgment of Christ and He judges us for the purpose of saving us. All the OT fathers will be judged by Christ at that time and from that judgment, they will be made perfect and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

I will try to answer your last post later today but it may be tomorrow morning before I get a chance.

Joe

Dear J___,

I read your post and you are understanding God's Word in a physical and outward way. You are not seeing spiritually. The New Covenant is 100% the work of Christ and His work is spiritual. Christ's teachings are taught in "another tongue" which is His spiritual language. Those teachings must be applied "within" us and not out in the world.

Also, I do not ignore passages that you say contradict with my understanding. Those passages support my understanding when properly understood.

All of Matthew chapter 24 is teaching on the pathway to salvation. It is an "End-time" chapter and it presents what happens to our old vessel/carnal nature upon the second coming of Christ (Latter Rain). It is the end-time of our old vessel.

In **Mat 24:24**, Christ said to the people He was looking face to face with that "**verily I say unto YOU, this generation will not pass until all these things be fulfilled**". These are not events that happen thousands of years into the future. These events were all fulfilled when those in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost received the Latter Rain of the Spirit. That was certainly within the generation of the people He was speaking to. And those same events have been fulfilled over and over again within the lives of all of Christ's Elect since that time.

In **Mat 24:29** it says:

Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

This verse is an example of Christ's spiritual language. Here is what it means: The "tribulation of those days" is referring to the time we spend in our fallen away state between the Early and Latter Rains. This time period is represented by the last three and a half years of Daniel's Seventy Weeks Prophecy. I have written a short paper explaining this prophecy which I can send to you if you have any interest. Our time of tribulation (time, times and half a time, 3 ½ years, 42 months, 1260 days) will end at the moment of conversion when our Man of Sin is destroyed. AFTER that happens, the sun is darkened and the moon will not give her light. That means that the converted believer will no longer receive their truth (light) from this world but will now receive it from Christ. It is this light from Christ that destroys our Man of Sin.

2Thes 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.

In **Mat 24:29**, the "heaven" it refers to represents the "mind" of the converted believer. The "stars" (our beliefs) will fall and the heaven (our mind) will be shaken. It is a spiritually earth shaking event within us. It comes with trumpets, thunder and lightning. The paradigm of our mind is being changed from having a carnal mind to having the mind of Christ.

All End-time prophecy is teaching on the pathway (includes both the wide and narrow paths) that leads to salvation. Because that is true, Christ's second coming event is a recurring event within the lives of each of His chosen Elect:

Rev 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne...

Rev 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Christ is coming and He has come and He will come to all of His Elect during this present age. They are the only ones who Christ is saving at this time. The rest of mankind will only be saved at the end of the final age. It is 100% His work to save us. The Old Covenant of Law proved that we cannot save ourselves. We all must wait on the Lord to come to us and change us from within so that we can be saved. There is no other way. Man's "works" are rejected by Christ. When a believer claims that they (from their own "free will") made a decision to accept Christ, they are following a doctrine of "works". We must approach Christ solely by faith (which He gives us), knowing that He will do everything necessary to change us from within so that we will make that confession of faith and start traveling the narrow path that ends with our glorified body.

Here is another example of Christ's spiritual language.

Mat 26:52 Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

Does Christ really mean that if you use a sword to kill others, then you must likewise be killed with a sword? Literally, that is what He is saying. So if we are to understand it literally, then that statement can easily be proven to be false. There are countless examples of people who have used violence to kill others but then do not die from that same type of violence - it almost goes without saying. So is Christ mistaken or is His message something else?

Since His "words are spirit", His message must be spiritually understood. Christ's spiritual message is quite different from what He is literally saying.

In **Matt 26:52**, Christ is using a spiritual "symbol" to give us His spiritual message. Here Christ uses the symbol of a Sword. To understand what that symbol means, we must look at how it is used elsewhere in scripture – we must compare spiritual with spiritual.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword...

Rev 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword...

From this example, it is easy to understand that a Sword represents the Word of God. So Christ's hidden spiritual point He is making in **Matt 26:52** is that all who take up the Word of God (those who are "called out") by the Word of God, must perish (death of the carnal nature) by the Word of God.

Spiritual understanding of scripture is further explained and expanded by **1Cor 2:13, Isa 28: 10-12** and **Psa 119:160**.

1Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Isa 28: 10-12 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

When a Called Out believer cannot understand the Word of God, their lack of understanding will cause them to "fall backward and be broken". So what does "to fall backward and be broken" actually mean? This is the same as to "fall away" (**Heb 6:4-6**) and it means to return to one's own attempt to be acceptable to God through their own works. This is the sin that leads to death (**1John 5:16**).

God's Truth is also presented to us in bits and pieces, which means we must put those pieces together to see the truth:

Psa 119:160 The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.

Again, to correctly understand scripture, it must be understood spiritually. For this type of understanding to occur, we must first understand that the words used in scripture do not carry the same meaning as taught by man's wisdom (**1Cor 2:13**). Christ's words are spirit (**John 6:63**) and we are told to understand their spiritual meaning by comparing them with the same spiritual words used elsewhere in scripture. We must compare spiritual with spiritual. We are to also keep in mind that "the sum of God's Word is truth.

Have you ever wondered why there are so many different denominational churches in the world, each with their own version of the truth? Those churches are full of Early Rain believers who are spiritually blind. They literally are places where the blind lead the blind.

You may be asking yourself why God made His Word so difficult to understand. I can assure you that He did not do it by mistake. God is purposely concealing Himself from this world so that He can reveal Himself to each individual at a time of His choosing.

Matt 13:10-11 And the disciples came, and said unto him, **Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you (the Elect) to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them (those not Chosen) it is not given.**

In scripture, the knowledge of God (which is fully found in Christ) is symbolized by Treasure.

Prov 2:1-5 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

Mat 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

For most people, God has not chosen to reveal Himself to them at this time. So for them, He remains “hidden” Treasure. However, that does not mean that He will forget them and forever remain hidden from their eyes. Scripture promises us that will not be the case.

1Tim 2:3-6 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

1Cor 15: 22-23 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

During this present age, Christ is gathering in the First-fruits of His Harvest. These First-fruits are also called the Chosen, the Elect, the Heirs, the Overcomers, the Bride or the Saints. The remaining harvest of mankind will come later in the final age which God established from the beginning of creation. Contrary to popular belief, Christ is NOT working to save all mankind during this present age. He is only appearing (revealing Himself) to those who have been chosen from the foundation of the world (**Rev 13:8 & Eph 1:11**). We are totally dependent upon Christ for our salvation, even the timing of it. We cannot “choose” ourselves to be one of His “chosen”. Christ alone is the One who calls us, chooses us and empowers us to remain faithful unto the end. It is all His work. To claim otherwise, only proves that we have “fallen away” and are attempting to be acceptable to Christ through our own “works”.

For those who have presently been given “eyes that can see” and “ears that can hear”, Christ is appearing to them and revealing Himself. They are finding great treasure!

The book of Revelation depicts this great treasure of God. This book is the great unveiling of Jesus Christ within an individual - it is salvation. But to keep Christ concealed from those not chosen to receive its message, the book was “signified” to the apostle John. In other words, the Truth was presented in spiritual symbols. It is in no way literal. It is not a book about end-time prophecy or future coming world events. There is no literal Lake of Fire or coming anti-Christ who rules the world. And for that matter, there is not even a literal throne room in heaven or a heaven with streets of gold. These are all physical symbols which represent spiritual truths.

Once a believer can understand the spiritual language of Christ, the apparent contradictions in scripture disappear.

J____, don't your beliefs contradict these verses below?

Rom 5:18-19 so then as it was by one offence towards all men to condemnation, so by one righteousness towards all men for justification of life. For as indeed by the disobedience of the one man the many have been constituted sinners, so also by the obedience of the one the many will be constituted righteous.

Acts 3:20-21 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Phi 2:10-11 That at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

How do you explain them away?

Joe

Dear J____,

I have not ignored the verses you presented. You are mis-understanding them and applying them physically instead of spiritually.

The New Covenant is spiritual. Your understanding of scripture is still carnal and out in the world. You are still seeing Christ in the flesh. The end-time prophecies only have spiritual fulfillments and those fulfillments happen when an Elect believer is converted.

We are no longer under the Old Covenant of "works". Man's works cannot save us. You are not rightly dividing the Word of God between the Old and New Covenants.

You also don't seem to understand how Christ saves us or for that matter, what salvation is. Salvation is 100% spiritual. We must be destroyed spiritually and be "born again" spiritually. Mankind must spiritually die. That death happens as a result of Christ's judgment upon us. Mankind's carnal nature/mind CANNOT and NEVER WILL understand God or be capable of having a relationship with Him. Mankind must be re-made into a child of God, a new vessel. The child of God is the only one who can understand and accept God's Word. Mankind is spiritually blind and always will be. We must be "born again" before we can know God.

Another thing you don't seem to understand is that Christ has a detailed plan to convert all mankind. It involves the Early and Latter Rain of the Spirit. In this age, Christ is only converting His Elect. The Elect are the First-Fruits of His harvest of mankind. They are NOT the full harvest as you seem to believe. They are only the early portion. Their days are shortened so that they can be harvested early. No one else will be saved in this age.

Matt 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

"Many" are "called out from the world" and become a member of the physical church. They are the ones who sit in the church pews on Sunday mornings. They are spiritually blind and are under the deceptions of Satan. Because of Satan's deceptions, they become "worse than before" when they were only unbelievers. But from that "fallen away" group of carnally minded believers, a "few" have been chosen. They are the Elect. After they have been made spiritually worse (Man of Sin) by Satan's deceptions, Christ will come to them suddenly with the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This event will immediately be followed up by the Day of the Lord when Christ will destroy the believer's old spiritual nature. This work of Christ's will convert them into a child of God.

Our salvation is 100% the work of Christ and we do not have any say in the matter as to "if" and "when" He will do His work within us.

From the beginning, God decided to make us spiritually flawed without our permission. Then, at a time of His choosing, He will also make us spiritually perfect without our permission. He does as He pleases with mankind:

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

No one can decide when Christ will come to them and save them. God the Father decided who will be the "early portion" and who will not be a long time ago (from the foundation of the world). If a person has not been chosen, they will die in their sins. They will have to wait until the actual end of the ages (the Lake of Fire age) to be saved. Mankind simply cannot save themselves as the Old Covenant proved. Only the spiritual work of Christ can save us and He decides when to do that work. Mankind has no say in the matter.

Unless you are starting to understand some of what I presented above, there isn't any reason to continue our discussions. I will have patience and wait on the Lord to act within you. Christ is the only one who can heal a person's blindness. I have no such power. All I can do is present the truth by the foolishness of preaching. If the Lord has made your heart ready to receive it, you will receive it. If Christ has not prepared your heart, further discussions will only be unfruitful.

Joe