

#104 FORUM POST ON IS GOD A FORTUNETELLER?

Dear All,

Did God foresee Adam and Eve's disobedience?

Yes! Because God's wisdom allows Him to see the end from the beginning (Isa. 46:10), God knew that he would disobey when presented with Satan's lie and so the provision of Christ's sacrifice for Adam was made even before the foundation of the world. "Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, (19) but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ. (20) For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you." (1 Peter 1:28-20 *NASB*)

Apostle Paul confirms this in Eph. 1:3-6 (*NASB*): "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, (4) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love (5) He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, (6) to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved." God chose the followers of Christ in Him before the foundation of the world. This means the sacrifice of Jesus and hence, its need – Adam's disobedience – was foreseen by God before the foundation of the world.

B

Dear B _____,

Adam and Eve sinned because God planned and caused them to sin. It did not happen by chance.

God caused Adam and Eve to sin by creating them spiritually marred (Jer 18:4) and subject to vanity (Rom 8:20). In this weak spiritual condition, the body of flesh that He gave them quickly started governing their spirit, causing it to have a carnal nature. With a carnal spiritual nature, Adam and Eve's minds quickly became carnal as well.

In this condition, Adam and Eve would sin and sin often just as all their offspring do. Christ even placed Satan (who He made to be the "destroyer" of mankind, Isa 54:15) in the Garden of Eden to tempt Eve after her mind became carnal:

Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (LUST OF THE FLESH**), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (**LUST OF THE EYES**), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (**PRIDE OF LIFE**), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.**

By tempting Eve to sin, Satan became mankind's destroyer just as God created him to be.

These scriptures also apply:

Ecc 1:13 An experience of evil God has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

Ecc 7:13 Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked?

Isa 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Prov 16:4 The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

Isa 63:17 O LORD, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways, and hardened our heart from thy fear? Return for thy servants' sake, the tribes of thine inheritance.

In their spiritual carnal condition, Adam and Eve had no ability to choose following the law of God over the dictates of their flesh.

These verses apply:

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

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?

The teaching that mankind has a free will ability to make choices is a lie from the destroyer via the spirit of anti-Christ. God is in complete control of everything that happens in this creation. Nothing happens by chance or by man's will - everything happens because God plans and causes it to happen.

So why does God do it this way?

Because this creation is for the purpose of creating many new children who will be like Him in spirit and in character. To accomplish this goal, God determined that it was necessary for mankind to have a knowledge of good and evil. For this reason, God made mankind in such a way so that mankind would sin. In the end, God will convert all mankind from the sinful

creatures that we presently are (children of the devil), into a new creation that pleases Him (children of God).

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

It was for the purpose of mankind's spiritual conversion that God sent Christ into the world:

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

When Christ finishes His work, this scripture below will be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 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.

As with physical child birth, the birth of God's children is also a painful experience for both the mother (Christ) and for the child (mankind).

Lastly, concerning the "foreknowledge" of God, there are ZERO scriptures that teach that God looks into the future to see how things turn out. This is not where His foreknowledge comes from. His foreknowledge is derived from His ability to CAUSE all things to turn out exactly as He has purposed and planned. God is not a fortuneteller.

Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning (foreknowledge**), and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: 11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.**

Isa 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Joe

B _____ never replied but another member did:

Dear FaithWillDo,

Where does the bible state that Adam and Eve sinned because God planned for them to sin?

Jeremiah 18:4 means that the potter RUINED the vessel.

Where in the story of Genesis does it state that God ruined Adam and Eve?

Instead, didn't God warn them to stay away from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?

Genesis 2:15-17

15Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.

16The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;

17but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

God even WARNED the man telling him that if he ate from the tree he would die.

Does God not give correct information and warnings to his creatures? (us).

FaithWillDo said:

and subject to vanity (Rom 8:20). In this weak spiritual condition, the body of flesh that He gave them quickly started governing their spirit, causing it to have a carnal nature. With a carnal spiritual nature, Adam and Eve's minds quickly became carnal as well.

This is a strange understanding of Genesis.

I read in that story that God stated that everything He created was good.

Genesis 1:10 GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

Genesis 1:12 AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

Genesis 1:18 AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

Genesis 1:21 AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

Genesis 1:25 AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

Genesis 1:31 BEHOLD, IT WAS VERY GOOD.

God declared everything He had made to be good and to be very good.

Was He lying?

Is God a liar?

Can we not trust the OT?

If God declares that He made something GOOD...

I think we should take Him at His word and believe that it was GOOD.

G _____

Dear G _____,

You asked:

Where does the bible state that Adam and Eve sinned because God planned for them to sin?

Ecc 1:13 An experience of evil God has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

Before Eve sinned, Eve displayed all the signs of having a carnal mind which is the reason why mankind sins:

Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (LUST OF THE FLESH**), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (**LUST OF THE EYES**), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (**PRIDE OF LIFE**), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.**

The verses below also apply and show that Adam and Eve's path was directed by God to sin just as all mankind steps are also directed by God:

Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

You said:

Jeremiah 18:4 means that the potter RUINED the vessel.

Where in the story of Genesis does it state that God ruined Adam and Eve?

Scripture teaches truth "here a little and there a little" (Isa 28:9-12) so we have to look elsewhere in scripture to learn the whole truth of a matter. Eve sinned because she was created spiritually marred and carnally minded. This is why Eve (and all mankind) put her desires over obeying the commandments of God. All mankind does this, too, and that is why all mankind sins.

The "potter" is Christ who is mankind's God and Creator. He is the one who spiritually marred mankind and made mankind subject to vanity. The flaw in the vessel is a spiritual flaw and is not in the body of flesh. We can know this because Christ came in the world with the same body of flesh as mankind but He was spiritually perfect (full measure of the Spirit) and because of such, He never sinned.

Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he

made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Christ is now in the process of making mankind into "another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make":

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

You said:

Instead, didn't God warn them to stay away from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?

Genesis 2:15-17

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16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;

17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

God even WARNED the man telling him that if he ate from the tree he would die.

Yes, God warned Adam and Eve to obey Him just as He warned the Nation of Israel to obey Him, too. But in both cases, it was not within their power to obey God because of the flaw in mankind's spiritual makeup. Mankind's spirit is carnal which has made the mind of mankind carnal as well. Christ certainly knew this about man and knew that man cannot follow His commandments perfectly. Mankind will always eventually sin against God and there is nothing that mankind can do about it.

Because God knows this truth about mankind, He tells mankind the proper way to live and behave so that when mankind realizes they cannot do it, they will turn to Christ who can do it for them. The "law" is mankind's schoolmaster which was given to lead us to Christ and His work of converting us into a new vessel.

You said:

God declared everything He had made to be good and to be very good.

Was He lying?

Is God a liar?

Can we not trust the OT?

You are not viewing this creation with the mind of Christ. God's purpose for this creation is to create many new children who will have a knowledge of good and evil and be spiritually perfect as He is perfect. To have a knowledge of good and evil, God decided to teach mankind

experientially about evil. This is why God created mankind to be spiritually marred and subject to vanity (sin). After the creation week was finished, God said that it was good - and it was good for the purposes that He intended.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Mark 16:15 has nothing to do with the Ordo Salutis.

Read **Ephesians 2:8** and please explain how salvation comes before faith:

8For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

THROUGH faith
we have been SAVED
by the Grace of God - God's LOVE for His creation

We are saved through faith.
Through faith we are saved.

G

Dear G _____,

Salvation does not come before faith and I do not teach that it does. Faith in Christ is what makes Christ's pathway straight for Him to come and convert a person into the new vessel. This spiritual process is called conversion and is taught over and over again in scripture "here a little and there a little".

Below is the pathway to salvation that Christ will cause His Elect to travel. This pathway was established by Christ shortly after Paul's death when the spirit of anti-Christ came and devoured the church (only the unconverted believers/the babes):

When Christ decides to begin the process of salvation for a person, He will come to them without their asking and without their permission. When He comes, Christ will freely give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. Christ gives the person this gift because of His grace and not because of anything (works) that the person did to deserve it. And because the person is carnal, they are veiled from knowing when it happened. However, they can know that it happened later when they make a confession of faith after the Gospel is presented to them. Without the Spirit (even the small amount of the Early Rain), no man can call Jesus "Lord" and with the Spirit, they will always accept Him.

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God

calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

The Early Rain of the Spirit is what Peter received prior to him recognizing that Jesus was the Christ.

Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Christ calls Peter "blessed" because He was given the Early Rain of the Spirit which revealed who Jesus actually was. Christ then says that the only reason he could "see" this truth was because it was revealed to him by His Father. Peter had no ability of his own to know this truth about Jesus if he had not been given to Peter (via the Early Rain of the Spirit). Christ then continued and said that it is upon this rock (the foundation) that He will build His church. And since Peter's confession originated from having the Early Rain of the Spirit, so will everyone else's confession.

Since the Early Rain of the Spirit is given in "measure" (a small amount, a "seed"), it will leave the new believer carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted. This is the spiritual condition of all new "babes" in Christ. They will have a "measure of faith" but little else beyond knowing "Christ and Him crucified". It is at this point that the person will enter the church.

Next, Satan will come to the new believer and plant his seed within them, too. His seed is the spirit of anti-Christ. Now the new believer has both the Early Rain of the Spirit and the spirit of anti-Christ within themselves. This causes a spiritual war to develop over who will govern the person. Since the Early Rain of the Spirit is given in "measure" and the person is unable to understand the spiritual truths of the New Covenant, Satan has no trouble deceiving the new believer into thinking that he is Christ (an angel of Light) and that his lies are truth. Paul mentions it here:

2Cor 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Christ mentions it here:

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits (represents the spirit of anti-Christ) more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is

worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

After the new believer is deceived, they will accept Satan's "another gospel" which mixes "works" with faith. When the believer commits this sin, they will "fall from grace" and lose their salvation. This is the "sin that leads to death" that Paul and John mentioned in their letters.

The believer will remain in this fallen away condition until they die OR (if they are one of the Elect) until Christ restores their faith by giving them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. Peter received the Latter Rain of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost with the other 119 Jewish Elect. Judgment also fell on him and he was converted. Paul received the Latter Rain of the Spirit after being in Damascus for three days.

Besides restoring the believer's faith, the Latter Rain of the Spirit will also heal the person's spiritual blindness and cause the person to be "born again". With their blindness healed, Christ will appear and gather the new child of God to heaven (spiritually speaking). In other words, the believer is added to the Kingdom of Heaven but they will still physically dwell on the earth until they die. After this event, judgment will follow and remove the spirit of anti-Christ and the Great Harlot (represents the person's carnal nature) from within the believer. Both will be cast into the Lake of Fire for destruction. Mat 24:37-41 and Rev 19:11-21 teach this truth. After the person's judgment is complete, the believer is converted and will never fall away again. Their salvation is secured and they will receive their rewards upon their resurrection from the grave.

This is how Christ builds His church and He starts with the foundation of the confession of faith.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

So you think God makes mistakes?

What does Romans 8:20 have to do with your statement that God made Adam and Eve GOOD?

I can't spend time trying to exegete verses you don't seem to grasp

My statement is that GOD MADE ADAM AND EVE PERFECT and He declared them TO BE GOOD...

in fact some theologians would say VERY GOOD (although that could be debated).

So,

YOU have to show with some scripture that states that God did NOT make Adam and Eve perfect...

none of your verses state this.

You quoted:

Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (LUST OF THE FLESH), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (LUST OF THE EYES), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (PRIDE OF LIFE), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

If a food looks good to you,
If something is pleasant for your eyes,,,
You have not sinned yet, have you?

These verses are explaining WHY satan was able to deceive Eve.
Satan deceives us in exactly the same way.....the verses are a warning.....

Could you tell us what gifts God gave to Adam and Eve that we do not have?

Did they HAVE any gifts?
Or were they just two blokes God created to have some fun with?

FaithWillDo said:

The verses below also apply and show that Adam and Eve's path was directed by God to sin just as all mankind steps are also directed by God:

Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

I'm sorry Faith, but you're going to have to study your bible a little more.
This conversation will soon come to an end because no understanding is shown here.
Proverbs 20:24 A man's steps are directed by the Lord. God is trying to direct you by taking the right action for the situations that come up just before that verse and just after it.

If Proverbs 20:24 could be used to show that God INTENTIONALLY mislead Adam and Even.
then

How does Proverbs 3:5-6 make any sense?

Would you care to reconcile those two verses?

I don't now if you're reformed or just misunderstanding scripture....
I do know for sure that the reformed faith causes many conflicts in scripture because the entire concept (yes, concept) is not biblical and thus causes many problems that have to be waved away as "mysteries".
As if God does not want us to know Him. (as revealed in scripture).

FaithWillDo said:

Scripture teaches truth "here a little and there a little" (Isa 28:9-12) so we have to look elsewhere in scripture to learn the whole truth of a matter. Eve sinned because she was created spiritually marred and carnally minded. This is why Eve (and all mankind) put her desires over obeying the commandments of God. All mankind does this, too, and that is why all mankind sins.

Yes sir. We DO have to look elsewhere in scripture - something YOU are not doing.

You say Eve put her own desires above God's.

OK. So you believe Eve had her own desires.

This means she had free will.

So how does you using Proverbs 20:24 make any sense?

FaithWillDo said:

Yes, God warned Adam and Eve to obey Him just as He warned the Nation of Israel to obey Him, too. But in both cases, it was not within their power to obey God because of the flaw in mankind's spiritual makeup.

But you said above that Eve PUT HER OWN DESIRE before God's.

So why are you now saying that it's not within man's power to obey God?

Your inconsistency is incredible.

FaithWillDo said:

Mankind's spirit is carnal which has made the mind of mankind carnal as well. Christ certainly knew this about man and knew that man cannot follow His commandments perfectly. Mankind will always eventually sin against God and there is nothing that mankind can do about it.

Well actually, there is something mankind can do about it.

Man can decide to turn to God and obey the gospel and all of God's commandments.

And BTW, God KNOWING man cannot follow His rules automatically....

does not mean

That God CREATED MAN to be UNABLE to follow His rules.

FaithWillDo said:

You are not viewing this creation with the mind of Christ. God's purpose for this creation is to create many new children who will have a knowledge of good and evil and be spiritually perfect as He is perfect. To have a knowledge of good and evil, God decided to teach mankind experientially about evil. This is why God created mankind to be spiritually marred and subject to vanity (sin). After the creation week was finished, God said that it was good - and it was good for the purposes that He intended.

Joe, you have your very own reason for evil. It's interesting, except for the part that God PURPOSEFULLY created man marred.

You'd be willing to serve this God that created man marred?

Let me go to the next post.

G

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Salvation does not come before faith and I do not teach that it does.

Teach?

You teach?

You have a PhD after your name?

I'd like to post this verse for you:

James 3:1

1Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

FaithWillDo said:

When Christ decides to begin the process of salvation for a person, He will come to them without their asking and without their permission. When He comes, Christ will freely give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. Christ gives the person this gift because of His grace and not because of anything (works) that the person did to deserve it. And because the person is carnal, they are veiled from knowing when it happened. However, they can know that it happened later when they make a confession of faith after the Gospel is presented to them. Without the Spirit (even the small amount of the Early Rain), no man can call Jesus "Lord" and with the Spirit, they will always accept Him.

I'm ignoring your verses because they really have little or nothing to do with your statements... however, it sounds like I agree but can't be sure due to your previous post.

To WHOM does Jesus give this first rain water you speak of...

which other Christians call GRACE....

FaithWillDo said:

Christ calls Peter "blessed" because He was given the Early Rain of the Spirit which revealed who Jesus actually was. Christ then says that the only reason he could "see" this truth was because it was revealed to him by His Father. Peter had no ability of his own to know this truth about Jesus if he had not been given to Peter (via the Early Rain of the Spirit). Christ then continued and said that it is upon this rock (the foundation) that He will build His church. And since Peter's confession originated from having the Early Rain of the Spirit, so will everyone else's confession.

Does Father reveal THIS TRUTH to everyone or just to a select few?

Joe, our conversation is sadly ended.

You have so much heresy and odd ideas in your posts that I can't even address them all.

If you care to address ONLY what I've posted, fine - I'll reply to that.

But I'll ignore the rest as your language and ideas are most odd.

G

It really didn't come to an end. He made another post to me:

Dear FaithWillDo,

Confessing and believing are works?

I'd like to see some verses that state that confessing and believing is a work - especially in light of the fact that Paul made it a POINT to state that faith is NOT a work.... and confessing and believing are both involved with having faith.

Paul states that faith is not a work:

Romans 4:4-5

4Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.

5However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

To the one who works, wages are credited as AN OBLIGATION.

To the one who DOES NOT WORK, faith is credited as righteousness.

Romans 11:6

6And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

God's remnant is chosen BY GRACE....

so it cannot be by works.

If the remnant were chosen by works....

then it would not be by grace.

WORKS AND GRACE DO NOT MIX.

G

Dear G _____,

You asked:

What version are you reading?

What do you think Ecc 1:13 is stating?

The translation is from the Concordant Literal Translation.

Here is the full verse:

Ecc 1:13 Ecc 1:13 I applied my heart to inquiring and exploring by wisdom all that is done under the heavens; an experience of evil (ra) God has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

You asked:

So you think God makes mistakes?

Absolutely not. God made Adam and Eve spiritually marred and subject to vanity on purpose. He created them this way so that they would sin and experience evil. In this way, they would experientially learn about good and evil.

So why do you believe that Adam and Eve sinned?

The apostate church teaches that God took a chance with Adam and Eve by giving them a free will ability. With this free will ability, Adam and Eve choose to disobey God. However, this teaching has ZERO scriptural support and is contradicted by numerous scriptures. The truth is that God did not give Adam and Eve a free will ability. Only God the Father has a free will ability to do as He pleases. Everyone else's "will" is governed by God.

Because of this belief in man's free will ability, Paul said this about apostate believers:

2Thes 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that MAN OF SIN be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

The Doctrine of Free Will taught by the apostate church is the reason that the man of sin (the worsen child of the devil) sits in God's temple (place where the Holy Spirit resides) claiming to be God. This is the Abomination of Desolation the Christ mentions in Mat 24:15.

You said:

YOU have to show with some scripture that states that God did NOT make Adam and Eve perfect...
none of your verses state this.

Jer 18:4 and Rom 8:20 clearly state that Adam & Eve were created spiritually marred and subject to vanity. This is the reason they sinned. When Christ came into the world, He received the same type of physical body that Adam and Eve were given, BUT Christ was spiritually perfect. It was because He was spiritually perfect that He never sinned. After Christ converts a spiritual marred and sinful person, they will be like Christ and will likewise never sin. This is how Christ saves mankind and produces new children for His Father.

You said:

If a food looks good to you,
If something is pleasant for your eyes,,,
You have not sinned yet, have you?

These verses are explaining WHY satan was able to deceive Eve.
Satan deceives us in exactly the same way.....the verses are a warning.....

Could you tell us what gifts God gave to Adam and Eve that we do not have?

Did they HAVE any gifts?
Or were they just two blokes God created to have some fun with?

Eve sinned because she was spiritually marred and became carnally minded. Because of this, she put her needs above following the commandments of God. Satan's temptation just exposed what was already "within" Eve (and Adam, too). All their offspring are just as spiritually marred and carnally minded as they were. For that reason, the Father sent Christ into the world to spiritually change mankind into a new spiritually perfect vessel. This is the purpose for this creation.

As for "gifts" that Adam and Eve were given, scripture never mentions that they were given any. They were completely carnal and because of such, they became sinful.

Your comment about "just two blokes" is disrespectful to God. God made Adam and Eve to be His children and He loved them very much. And because He loves them (and all their offspring), God the Father sent Christ into the world to change mankind into a new spiritually perfect vessel. It is with great tribulation that God births new children who will be like Him.

You said:

Proverbs 20:24 A mans' steps are directed by the Lord. God is trying to direct you by taking the right action for the situations that come up just before that verse and just after it.

God is not "trying" to direct our steps, He is doing it.

This verse applies:

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Some of God's words that mankind follow are "evil" words:

Lam 3:38 Out of the mouth of the Most High doth not there proceed evil and good?

God is giving mankind an experience of evil and since God controls all things, He is the cause of that evil. When God's purpose for evil has been satisfied, God will end it.

Listen to the words of Job:

Job 2:10 But he said to her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. We have also received good from God, and should we not receive evil? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

You then asked:

How does Proverbs 3:5-6 make any sense?

Prov 3:5 Trust unto Jehovah with all thy heart, And unto thine own understanding lean not. 6 In all thy ways know thou Him, And He doth make straight thy paths.

Presently, mankind is following the "crooked" path of approaching God by trying to make themselves acceptable to God by their own works. This is called "religion" and is the way that Satan's "another gospel" teaches. For that reason, scripture calls Satan the "crooked serpent". To change mankind from following the crooked way, God sent Christ into the world to show mankind the "straight way" which leads to God. The straight way is placing our faith & trust in Him to supply all our needs. After Christ converts a person, they will only approach God by the straight way. They will then understand that their "works" were nothing more than "filthy rags".

You said:

You say Eve put her own desires above Gods.

OK. So you believe Eve had her own desires.

This means she had free will.

So how does you using Proverbs 20:24 make any sense?

No. Eve had a "will" but it was not free. You are making that assumption rather than letting scripture tell you if her "will" was free or not.

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?

At this time, it is God's "will" for mankind to be carnal and sinful. After mankind realizes that they can never be good enough, Christ will convert each person of mankind into a spiritually perfect vessel. This is why Christ came into the world.

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

Gal 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better.

The Old Covenant (old wine) is based upon man's works to make a person acceptable to God. However, man's works will not ever justify us before God because we are spiritually marred and imperfect. After a person realizes this truth, they will be lead to Christ and the New Wine which will change us and justify us before God.

After being given the Early Rain of the Spirit, all new believers will prefer and drink the old wine after having "tasted" the new wine. When they consume the old wine, they will be mixing works with faith and will fall from grace. No new believer (a babe) can avoid it happening to them. This truth is taught by Isa 28:9-12 and Mat 12:43-45.

You asked:

**But you said above that Eve PUT HER OWN DESIRE before God's.
So why are you now saying that it's not within man's power to obey God?**

I assume you meant to say "dis" obey God?

God made Eve spiritually marred and carnally minded so that she would disobey God's laws. This is exactly what God's "will" was for her at that time. After God's purpose for Eve's disobedience has be satisfied, God will convert Eve so that she will obey His laws. When that happens, that will be God's "will" for her at that time, too.

You said:

**Well actually, there is something mankind can do about it.
Man can decide to turn to God and obey the gospel and all of God's commandments.**

And BTW, God KNOWING man cannot follow His rules automatically....

does not mean

That God CREATED MAN to be UNABLE to follow His rules.

What you have stated above comes from Satan "another gospel". There is no truth in it. You are still wearing the filthy rags of man's works. You need to turn to Christ for all your needs because He is the only one who can. When Christ is ready for you to do so, He will give you the Latter Rain of the Spirit so that you will approach Him solely faith. You are at the mercy of Christ to save you. You have nothing you can contribute toward you own salvation.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Since you believe that you are the one responsible for having faith and accepting Christ as your Savior, you do have something to boast about to others who didn't make those correct choices. By believing the way you do, you must believe that you are wiser, smarter or just not as evil as those who reject Christ. This belief comes from the spirit of anti-Christ.

Final comment: Your understanding of scripture is "filtered" through your "works" based belief system. You need to turn to Christ and ask Him for "eyes that can see". He is your only hope.

Joe

You asked:

Confessing and believing are works?

Yes, they are works if you claim them as coming from your own free will ability.

You are denying the truth that is taught in the verses below:

Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Deut 29:4 Yet the LORD hath not given you a heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day.

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

Isa 26:12 O Jehovah, thou appointest peace to us, for, all our works also thou hast wrought for us.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of

the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Even our repentance comes from God:

2Tim 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

We are completely at the mercy of Christ to save us - and that certainly includes Him giving us our faith, repentance, love for Him, etc.

You said:

Paul states that faith is not a work:

Romans 4:4-5

4Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.

5However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

Faith is a gift from God. When a person believes that their faith came from their own free will ability to choose it, it becomes a "work" for them. With this "work", they justify why others are not saved and why they are. It is with this mindset that they justify why unbelievers are worthy of the Lake of Fire. In other words, they believe that unbelievers brought this fate upon themselves. This is how believers like you have turn the gift of faith into their own work. You are still wearing filthy rags.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Absolutely not. God made Adam and Eve spiritually marred and subject to vanity on purpose. He created them this way so that they would sin and experience evil. In this way, they would experientially learn about good and evil.

So why do you believe that Adam and Eve sinned?

Eve sinned because she was deceived by satan.
Genesis 3:1 satan was the most crafty of all the beasts.

It's not certain why Adam ate of the fruit.
Some believe it might be because he didn't want Eve to be alone in her sinful state.
We cannot be sure of what is not written...
We should not add our own thought and beliefs to the biblical narrative.

Please state the verses that support your theory that Adam and Eve did not have free will.

You quoted this scripture:

2Thes 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that MAN OF SIN be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

What does the above, 2 Thes 2:1 have to do with free will?

FaithWillDo said:

Jer 18:4 and Rom 8:20 clearly state that Adam & Eve were created spiritually marred and subject to vanity. This is the reason they sinned. When Christ came into the world, He received the same type of physical body that Adam and Eve were given, BUT Christ was spiritually perfect. It was because He was spiritually perfect that He never sinned. After Christ converts a spiritual marred and sinful person, they will be like Christ and will likewise never sin. This is how Christ saves mankind and produces new children for His Father.

NO Faith,,,this is how YOU interpret Jer 18:4 and Rom 8:20.

As I've stated before, if you're going to use Jeremiah 18:4 to support your ideas, then you're also going to have to admit that God makes mistakes.

Just saying it does not make it so...
YOU stated that God made a vessel and had to start over.
So YOU are stating that God made a mistake.

So you can not then state that God does not make mistakes-

Our God is a great God and does not make mistakes.
Psalm 145:3. God is infinite. If He made just one mistake He would be fallible.

So God cannot make marred objects.

God's ability to do all things and comprehend all matters also prevents Him from making mistakes: "Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit" ([Psalm 147:5](#)). Again, Scripture shows that God is infallible. Limited knowledge leads to mistakes, but God has unlimited knowledge and makes no mistakes.

source: [Does God make mistakes? | GotQuestions.org](#)

FaithWillDo said:

Eve sinned because she was spiritually marred and became carnally minded. Because of this, she put her needs above following the commandments of God. Satan's temptation just exposed what was already "within" Eve (and Adam, too). All their offspring are just as spiritually marred and carnally minded as they were. For that reason, the Father sent Christ into the world to spiritually change mankind into a new spiritually perfect vessel. This is the purpose for this creation.

As for "gifts" that Adam and Eve were given, scripture never mentions that they were given any. They were completely carnal and because of such, they became sinful.

Sorry F, but you need to study some theology.

These are the gifts Adam and Eve had been given to them by God:

They were meant to live forever...

IMMORTALITY

They lived in harmony with God and were innocent until they became ashamed of their nakedness...

ABSENCE OF THE SIN NATURE

They had no need to study about God, they had....

INFUSED KNOWLEDGE

I'm through here Faith.

Learn some theology - I don't even care which denomination...

but at least become biblical in some sense.

I will no longer reply to your nonsense since YOU are not the one making Christianity what it is. Christianity is already established.

Learn it.

G

Dear G _____,

After Paul's departing, the entire church which was made up of "babes" (Early Rain only), was completely devoured by the wolves (Acts 20:29-31). Nothing has changed since that time and it won't change because it is God's "will" for all babes to become apostate.

The teachings of Christ frequently teach about the apostasy that was soon to be coming. However, Christ teaches it in His spiritual language so that a true understanding of the apostasy will remain veiled from new believers (babes).

Consider this verse:

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

The only reason that the very Elect were not deceived by Satan is because they were converted BEFORE the spirit of anti-Christ came into the world and devoured the church. A converted believer cannot be deceived by Satan.

The scripture in Isaiah teaches about the apostasy, too. You should read it again carefully and really consider the profound message that it teaches.

Isa 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts (converted believers/little children). 10 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 language (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 (the babes who draw milk) might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken (by Satan, this is when a babe becomes apostate).

The believers who are weaned from the breasts are converted believers. How do I know this? Because of what Christ says here:

Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Only the Elect will be converted in this age. They are the First Fruits of Christ's harvest of mankind. For them, Christ will come to them TWO times.

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he (Christ) shall come unto us as the RAIN, as the latter and former RAIN unto the earth.

The first time Christ comes as the Rain is when He comes to an unbeliever and gives them the Early Rain of the Spirit. The Early Rain is what gives a person their faith in Christ. The apostles received the Early Rain of the Spirit when they walked with Christ. But because the Early Rain of the Spirit leaves a new believer (a babe) spiritually blind, they cannot understand the spiritual teachings of the New Covenant.

Consider what Christ said to the apostles below:

John 16:12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now (why? because they are babes who draw milk), 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth (this is the Latter Rain), is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

When the Spirit of Truth came to the apostles on the Day of Pentecost, they were converted and went from being spiritually blind babes to being "little children" who can be "guided into all truth".

Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Consider this: The apostles made a confession of faith and called Jesus "Lord" when they walked with Him. How were they able to do make this confession of faith?

There is only one way a person can make a confession of faith as this verse says:

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

The only way the apostles were able to make a confession of faith was because the Father gave them the Early Rain of the Spirit.

Christ confirms this truth here:

Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

With even just the small amount of the Spirit (the Early Rain), the apostles could understand (see) that Jesus was the Christ and have faith in Him. But because they only had the Early Rain of the Spirit, they were "babes" who could draw the milk of the Word. For that reason, Christ

told them in John 16:12 that He had much more to tell them but that they couldn't "bear" it yet.

Were the apostles saved after they made the confession of faith after having been given the Early Rain of the Spirit? No, they were not. But they did have the faith which the Early Rain of the Spirit gave them. With this faith, Christ's pathway was made straight for Christ to "come again" and give them the Spirit of Truth (Latter Rain) and convert them (save them).

After the apostles received the Spirit of Truth (Latter Rain) and were converted, they went from being a babe to being a little child. This is when they were saved and when they entered the Kingdom of Heaven as Mat 18:3 says.

To be saved, a person MUST be given both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

Paul understood this truth and that is why He said this:

Heb 9:28 So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

After a person is given the Early Rain of the Spirit, they can understand (see) the physical work of Christ that led Him to the cross (Christ and Him crucified). In the spiritual language of Christ, this is when Christ appears/comes to a person "in the flesh":

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

If a person does not have the Early Rain of the Spirit, they cannot "see" Christ's first appearance. This is the reason why a person will remain an unbeliever.

Since "babes" are spiritually blind, they will deny that Christ ever came to them "in the flesh". They believe that He came to them like He did to the 120 Jewish Elect on the Day of Pentecost. This belief is why they deny the existence of the Early Rain of the Spirit which gave them their faith. And since they deny the Early Rain of the Spirit, they take credit for the faith that they have rather than giving credit to Christ who gave it to them with the Early Rain. This is one of the primary signs that a believer has become apostate.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Joe, I really cannot reply to such posts.

I admire anyone who could engage with you.

If you're trying to create your own religion, I doubt a Christian forum will be the place to start since most on here seem to be biblically savvy to me.

G

Dear G _____,

It is apostate believers who practice "religion" and it is Satan who formed it. In this religion, Satan masquerades as Christ and teaches another gospel by another spirit.

2Cor 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Religion is the attempt to make oneself acceptable to God by one's own works. True Christianity is not a religion because mankind's has no works to perform under the New Covenant of Grace through Faith. All the "works" are the works of Christ, both His physical works that He performed under the Old Covenant (the cross) and His spiritual works that He is performing now within the Elect. Christ performs these works solely because of His grace and not because a person does anything to deserve it.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

You would do well to believe what Paul says above.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Religion: Rilegare
To tie together.

Religion has been given a bad name in Christian circles.
The Jews did not accept Jesus.
So He had to start a new religion.

Now...should we also argue about what religion means and whether or not Christianity is a religion?

FaithWillDo said:

Religion is the attempt to make oneself acceptable to God by one's own works. True Christianity is not a religion because mankind's has no works to perform under the New Covenant of Grace through Faith.

Of course we have works to complete.
You should make sure you know about the NC.

Let's post some verses about good works:

Ephesians 2:8-10

8For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is the gift of God;*

9not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

10For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Many like to forget verse 10.

Matthew 5:16 JESUS SAID:

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Sounds like doing good works give glory to God.

James 2:14

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

Sounds like a very important question James is asking.

Hebrews 15:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Are we to listen to those that claim we have nothing to do---
or should we obey what the NT AND JESUS taught?

FaithWillDo said:

All the "works" are the works of Christ, both His physical works that He performed under the Old Covenant (the cross) and His spiritual works that He is performing now within the Elect. Christ performs these works solely because of His grace and not because a person does anything to deserve it.

The cross is the Old Covenant?

Study up on the Covenants Faith.

And you don't think we could do anything to deserve salvation?

How about OBEYING JESUS?

Matthew 7:24-27

24“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25“And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

26“Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

27“The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”

G _____

Dear G _____,

A believer's "good works" are the evidence of their conversion. They happen because of what this verse teaches:

Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

In other words, the good works that a converted believer does are not their own works, they are the works of Christ that He does through the believer.

Isa 26:12 O Jehovah, thou appointest peace to us (conversion/salvation), for, all our works also thou hast wrought for us (do of His good pleasure).

You asked:

The cross is the Old Covenant?

The physical work that Christ did which led Him to the cross was performed under the Old Covenant. This work had to be performed so that He would be the perfect and sinless sacrifice (a lamb without spot or blemish) which was required by the Law.

Because Christ's work under the Old Covenant was physical and outward, carnal believers (babes) don't have trouble understanding it. This is why Paul made these statements below to the "babes" in the Corinthian church:

1Cor 2:2 For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

1Cor 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas

there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

All babes in Christ are just as carnal and spiritually blind as the Corinthian believers were.

Because the Corinthians were babes who had only been given the Early Rain of the Spirit, Paul also made this statement to them:

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (Early Rain): 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (second coming): 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ (judgment of the believer which completes the conversion process).

The "type" taught by the story of the woman taken in adultery (John 8:3-11) is a second witness to when a believer comes out from being under the Law. It happens after they have received the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

In the story, the woman represents mankind and more specifically, Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve listened to Satan over what Christ had told them, they committed spiritual adultery with Satan. This is what the woman's adultery represented. When the woman is brought to Christ to judge her, He writes in the earth. This represents Christ writing His law of the Spirit in the woman's heart. This is a type for the Early Rain of the Spirit. But after Christ writes in the earth the first time, the Pharisees do not drop their stones (a type for the Law) and leave. Christ then writes in the earth a second time. This is a type for the Latter Rain of the Spirit. After the woman receives the Latter Rain, the Pharisees drop their stones and leave because the Law can no longer accuse the woman. She is now under the blood of Christ and has become a new creation.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

A believer's "good works" are the evidence of their conversion.

This is not what you said originally.

In your post no. 119, you stated this:

Religion is the attempt to make oneself acceptable to God by one's own works. True Christianity is not a religion because mankind's has no works to perform under the New Covenant of Grace through Faith. All the "works" are the works of Christ, both His physical works that He performed under the Old Covenant (the cross) and His spiritual works that He is performing now within the Elect. Christ performs these works solely because of His grace and not because a person does anything to deserve it.

Christianity is not a religion because mankind has no works to perform under the NC of grace through faith.

All the works are the works of Christ.

Man has always had works to perform...as per all the verses I posted.

All the works are of Christ could mean that ONLY Christ has His work cut out for Him while we do nothing.

If you want to change the above to mean that WORKS DO NOT SAVE US WITHOUT FAITH... then I agree 100%.

Faith without works is a dead faith.

Works without faith are dead works.

FaithWillDo quoted:

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (Early Rain): 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (second coming): 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ (judgment of the believer which completes the conversion process).

The above is referring to sanctification.

Do you agree?

"Judgment of the believer completes the conversion process..."

do you mean glorification?

FaithWillDo said:

In the story, the woman represents mankind and more specifically, Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve listened to Satan over what Christ had told them, they committed spiritual adultery with Satan. This is what the woman's adultery represented. When the woman is brought to Christ to judge her, He writes in the earth. This represents Christ writing His law of the Spirit in the woman's heart. This is a type for the Early Rain of the Spirit. But after Christ writes in the earth the first time, the Pharisees do not drop their stones (a type for the Law) and leave. Christ then writes in the earth a second time. This is a type for the Latter Rain of the Spirit. After the woman receives the Latter Rain, the Pharisees drop their stones and leave because the Law can no longer accuse the woman. She is now under the blood of Christ and has become a new creation.

Wow. Very good.

Will have to read it again tomorrow when I'm more awake.

G

Dear G _____,

You said:

This is not what you said originally.

My statements do not contradict each other. God does all the works in us and through us. We repent, we have faith and we make a confession of faith, we do good works BUT it is the Holy Spirit within us who is the one who causes us to "will" and to "do" those things. We can take credit for none of it.

Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Eph 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

The "things" that God "worketh" include the spiritual things within mankind.

Mankind does not direct their own steps, nor does mankind have a free will ability to make their own decisions. Mankind has a "will" but it is not free.

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

One other point on this subject. One of the primary reasons that mankind believes that they have a "free will" is because mankind cannot see, hear, taste or feel the spiritual work that God does within mankind. Mankind's carnality blinds them to it.

Ecc 3:11 He has made everything fitting in its season; However, He has put obscurity (the carnality of this world) in their heart so that the man may NOT find out His work, that which God does, that which God does from the beginning to the end.

Though one may argue over the translation of this verse, I believe the translation above conveys it's correct teaching. It is man's carnality that blinds man from sensing the spiritual work that God does within the hearts and minds of mankind. For that reason, it takes faith to believe that God really does direct the steps of mankind.

You said:

Ok. Maybe you could stop using the phrase BABES and start saying carnal believers - which we all understand.

The term "babes" is what scripture uses and I find that using that term usually works the best.

When I use the term "babe" it has a very specific meaning. It means believers who only have been given the Early Rain of the Spirit and who remain carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted. Because of these weakness, all babes will "fall backward, be broken, snared and taken" by Satan.

You asked:

Can a person be carnal (yet carnal - verse 3) and still be a believer?

Yes, all "babes" are carnal and they are believers. This is true because the Early Rain of the Spirit gives a babe a "measure of faith". But because the babes are spiritually blind and carnal, they can and will be deceived by Satan. However, this was not true for the early believers prior to the spirit of anti-Christ coming into the church. When you read the NT letters, you must keep in mind that the babes to whom the letters were written were remaining faithful to Christ (no works). They were able to remain faithful because of the work of the apostles and because the spirit of anti-Christ had not come yet. But all that quickly changed after the death of Paul and the babes in the churches (who are "many") all fall away. They retained their zeal for God but it was not based on knowledge.

Rom 10:2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

Though Paul was speaking of Israel in the verse above, it also applies to carnal believers, too, but with one difference. Carnal believers, though they are carnally minded just like Israel, they do have the Early Rain which gives them faith and the ability to see and accept the physical work of Christ that He did at the cross. Israel does not have the Early Rain and will not recognize Jesus as the Christ. But Israel still has zeal for God, its just that they cannot see who God really is. They are totally blind and have been cast into "outer darkness".

You said:

The above is referring to sanctification.

Do you agree?

"Judgment of the believer completes the conversion process..."
do you mean glorification?

Here's the verse again:

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (Early Rain): 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (second coming): 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ (judgment of the believer which completes the conversion process).

Here is my understanding: The Early Rain gives a believer "faith". Faith is what justifies a believer. However, after a babe begins mixing in their own works with the works of Christ, they will become "unfaithful" and will no longer be justified. Becoming unfaithful does not mean that they no longer believe in Christ because they still do. They are just are not approaching Christ solely by faith any longer since they are mixing in their own works.

For example: When Israel sent the 12 spies into the Promised Land (represents salvation), 10 of the spies came back with a "bad report" because they didn't believe that they could defeat the giants in the land (represents strongholds of man's carnality). This is a bad report because the 10 spies did not have faith that God would defeat the giants for them (or through them). This is what it means to be unfaithful. The 10 spies were mixing in their own works and faith. The 2 spies (Joshua and Caleb/types for the Elect) that came back with a good report believed that God would defeat the giants. They were ready to cross into the promised and it was based on faith. But since the congregation believed the bad report, God caused the nation to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. This is a type for the church becoming apostate. The number 40 represents a time of tribulation that the apostate church endures. Notice also that Joshua and Caleb had to experience this time of tribulation, also. But because Joshua and Caleb had the good report based on faith, they were the only two to live through the forty years of tribulation and enter the Promised Land (salvation). When Joshua and Caleb crossed the Jordan River, it was a type for them receiving the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

Back to 1Cor 1:16 now. Truth is what sanctifies a believer. The believer is sanctified after they receive the Latter Rain and have their spiritual blindness healed. As they are fed truth by Christ at the marriage supper of the Lamb, Christ is sanctifying them.

Glorification: To be glorified is when someone else gives you glory. Here is when Christ glorified in His saints (the Elect):

2Th 1:10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

This event is the second coming of Christ when He comes to convert one of His Elect. After He has given the person the Latter Rain and has healed their spiritual blindness, they will see him "face to face". This is when the saints glorify Christ because they can now see Him as He is.

Now for this verse:

Rom 8:30 ...whom he justified, them he also glorified.

And this verse:

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that

we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Upon the Elect's resurrection from the grave, they will receive their glorious spiritual body and together with Christ, they will reign over the balance of unsaved mankind in the final age. As each "lost" person is converted, both Christ and the Elect will then be glorified by the newly born child of God. This is how Christ and the Elect are glorified together.

If you don't believe that Christ will save ALL mankind before He finishes his work, then you are not going to be able to receive what I stated above. We could discuss this more if you like.

You said:

Are you saying the woman in adultery was under the law, and then she wasn't?

The woman represents mankind who is under the penalty of the law because of sin (her adultery of fornicating with Satan). After the woman (each person of mankind) receives both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit, they will be covered by the blood of Christ and the law can no longer accuse her of sin because of Christ's sacrifice at the cross. The law is still intact but the woman is no longer guilty of violating the law - and after Christ matures her into a perfect man, full of age, she will be like Christ and will never sin again.

Joe

Another member asked me a question about the destruction of Jerusalem mentioned in Dan 9:26 and in Luke 21:20.

Dear FaithWillDo,

Sorry to jump in here so late and I have not read all the posts... but are you saying that Daniel 9:26 does not refer to the destruction of the city and the sanctuary in 70 AD? Thanks

C

Dear C _____

That is correct.

This will be difficult for you to understand. I will add my comments in blue to the scripture. Hopefully, this will make it easier for you.

Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem (this is the physical Jerusalem) unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And AFTER threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off (die at the cross/New Covenant begins), but not for himself (for mankind): and the people (the Elect/child of God) of the prince (Christ) that shall come shall destroy the city (earthly Jerusalem) and the sanctuary (earthly temple); and the end thereof shall be with a flood (judgment that converts one of the Elect), and unto the end of the war desolations are determined (the apostasy/falling away of a babe/unconverted carnal Elect believer by the spirit of anti-Christ). 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (Old Covenant ends and New Covenant begins), and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation (time of conversion), and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

If you understand the destruction of Jerusalem in a physical way, then the people of the Prince would be the Jews. But the Jews did not destroy Jerusalem or the temple - the Roman army did. Under the New Covenant, the Elect (as a Bride) destroys Jerusalem. This is described in Rev 19:11-20.

Here is more on how to understand Daniel's prophecy along with the end-time prophecies of the New Covenant:

The first 69 1/2 weeks of Daniel's prophecy were fulfilled in an outward and physical way under the Old Covenant. That is why the first 69 1/2 weeks were physically and literally fulfilled. This leaves 3 1/2 years of the prophecy and they are now being fulfilled spiritually under the New Covenant. They are not being fulfilled physically and literally as the first 69 1/2 weeks were.

Christ "confirmed the covenant" (the one Christ made with Abraham) when He was baptized by John the Baptist at the beginning of the 70th week. This left seven years for Christ to fulfill the goals of the prophecy which are outlined in Dan 9:24. In the midst of the final week, Christ was cutoff at the cross. This ended the Old Covenant and began the New Covenant. Daniel's prophecy must be rightly divided by this transition from the Old Covenant (physical) to the New Covenant (spiritual).

The verse below from Luke also applies to the spiritual destruction of earthly Jerusalem which occurs after Christ was cutoff. It is a spiritual event which occurs under the New Covenant.

Luke 21:20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

Christ's words are "spirit" and He uses them in His spiritual teachings of the New Covenant.

In the New Covenant teachings, Jerusalem is a spirit word (John 6:63) which carries a different meaning than what man's wisdom teaches (1Cor 2:13).

The word "Jerusalem" which is used in Dan 9:26 and in Luke 21:20 is a spirit word because it is being used in Christ's end-time teachings of the New Covenant.

The end-time prophecies are describing the spiritual events (signs of the times) which happen within each Elect believer as they progress toward their conversion (the end). These spiritual events are reoccurring events and have been happening throughout this age within all the Elect.

When an Elect person is converted, the "ends of the ages" have come upon them.

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

The Jerusalem that Christ is mentioning in Dan 9:26 and in Luke 21:20 is the earthly Jerusalem that is below. This is in contrast to the New Jerusalem which is above.

Earthly Jerusalem is synonymous with the spirit words "Wicked heart, Damascus, Sodom, Egypt, woman and Mystery Babylon the Great Harlot". These spirit words represent mankind's marred and carnal spirit which causes the natural man to prefer the Old Wine over the New Wine.

Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better.

The Old Wine represents the Old Covenant which is based upon a person's attempt to make themselves acceptable to God by their own works. Scripture calls this the crooked way. Mankind calls it religion. Satan's "another gospel" teaches the crooked way to apostate believers by mixing the Old Wine with the New Wine. For this reason, Satan is called the crooked serpent. When Satan deceives a "babe" with his false gospel, he spiritually kills the believer and adds another person to his apostate church. To accomplish this building of his false church, Satan (as a serpent) bites the woman (the Great Harlot/earthly Jerusalem). In other words, Satan attacks a believer through their carnal nature by feeding her his carnally pleasing lies of the Old Wine. This is how Satan eats the dust of the ground (a symbol for carnal mankind/includes babes who are carnal).

This verse applies:

Prov 23:27 For a whore (Great Harlot/earthly Jerusalem) is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit. 28 She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men. 29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? 30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. 31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. 32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder (the spiritual killing of the saints). 33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things (false doctrines of the apostate church).

The New Wine (New Covenant) teaches the straight way of Christ which is to approach God strictly by faith. This faith is more than just believing that Jesus is the Christ (Christ and Him crucified). It is a faith that trusts Christ to provide all the works (both physical and spiritual) which are necessary for making oneself acceptable to God. The spiritual work that Christ does to accomplish a person's salvation/conversion is taught throughout scripture and more specifically in the end-time prophecies and in the parables that begin with the phrase "the Kingdom of Heaven is like".

When the earthly Jerusalem is surrounded by armies, its destruction is about to occur within the believer. This destruction of Jerusalem is described in Rev 18 as the destruction of the Great Harlot. After this judgment is complete, the believer will be converted.

The spiritual teachings of the New Covenant primarily teach the spiritual events that happen within the Elect as they travel the pathway to salvation. They do not teach outward, physical events that only happen one-time at the literal end of this age.

Joe

