**Kingdom Truths Introduced and How One’s Soul is Saved**

(This is an older document and as such the sources of commentary are unknown.)

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**Kingdom Truths Introduced**

**Time Scale**

**One Week (Seven Days)**

The Bible is God’s story of His dealings with this earth and its inhabitants from earth’s creation to its destruction by fire! The whole of Scripture is, after some fashion, focused upon the millennium. Scripture provides very little information on eternity beyond the millennium.

The time from creation to destruction is one week, and this one week (seven days) is divided into six days of work and one day of rest!

Christ’s first coming (when He was crucified and resurrected) was between the fourth and fifth day, leaving three days (two work days and one rest day) before destruction!

The one day of rest (seventh day) is the kingdom time (millennium)!

Therefore, the two days between Christ’s resurrection and the beginning of the kingdom (fifth and sixth days) is the time we (the saved) have to make ourselves ready for acceptance into the kingdom (on the seventh day)!

We (the saved, both dead and alive) are called into His presence at the judgment seat (rapture) and either accepted or not accepted into the kingdom!

The fifth and sixth days -- a two day period extending from Jesus Christ’s crucifixion at the end of the fourth day to the saved appearing at the judgment seat of Christ at the end of the sixth day -- we are living in now! Actually we’re living near the end of the sixth day near the rapture!

Now Note: God’s one day is equal 1,000 years; therefore, from creation to destruction is 7,000 years, i.e., the kingdom (rest day) is the seventh 1,000 years (a millennium)! Just Think! For Christ the earth has existed for less than seven days!

*But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.* (2 Pet. 3:8)

**Days Five and Six**

Jesus is a antitype of Adam and is called the second Adam!

Adam had a wife who was to rule with him; therefore, Jesus Christ must have a wife to rule with Him!

Adam’s wife was removed from his body; Christ’s wife must come from His body!

At Christ’s crucifixion the blood and water that flowed from His body represents the church. From the church He will choose those who will rule and reign with Him (e.g., the chosen, the wedding guest, the bride) in the kingdom. Those not chosen in any capacity from the church will not be in the kingdom!

The Holy Spirit began His search for a bride for Christ after Christ’s resurrection at the end of the fourth day and is looking and will continue looking until the rapture at the end of the sixth day where all the saved, from which Christ will chose a bride, will be presented to Him!

Note: God also has a bride! Israel!

**Salvations**

As a way of introducing two different salvations, one must have an understanding of two relationships*.* The first is the relationship between the “law of God” and the *lost* person. The second is between the “commandments of Christ” and the *saved* person. The first relationship says *“do* and have eternal life,” whereas, the second relationship says *“do* and have millennial life.” The first relationship says if you fail to keep the law of God, you will suffer forever in the lake of fire, whereas, the second relationship says if you fail to keep the commandments of Christ, you will suffer loss for a millennium in “outer darkness” and possibly “the blackness of darkness”.

Whereas, the law of God is given in the Old Testament, the commandments of Christ are in the New - specifically the “Sermon on the Mount” (Matthew 5-7).

Whereas, the law of God separates an unregenerate sinner from the presence of God eternally, the commandments of Christ will separate an unrepentant saint from the presence of Christ for a millennium.

Whereas, the final judgment for lost sinners is called “the second death,” which will last forever (Rev. 20:14; 21:8), the final judgment of apostate saints is also called “the second death” (Rev. 2:11; 20:6), which will last only for a millennium. In view of this, the scriptures teach that there is such a thing as an “eternal death,” and a “millennial death.”

**Spiritual Aspect of Salvation**

You believe in Jesus!

You are saved (salvation) because you believe (have one act of faith) in Jesus!

This salvation is a gift (you don’t have to do anything but believe) from God and gives you the following:

Eternal life in some form!

A guaranty that your body will be saved in time!

An opportunity to live (with Christ) in the millennial kingdom (seventh day - 1,000 year rest)!

**Second Salvation (of the soul)**

Your gift (spirit aspect of salvation) *positions* you to work toward the soul aspect of your salvation:

Continuous acts of faith!

Not a gift, have to work for [allow the Holy Spirit to produce righteous fruit through you]!

Work [of the Holy Spirit] is continuous and never ceases!

Power of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God will cause you to grow and, as such, save your *soul*!

As you feed on the Word you will automatically and continuously be transformed within and as a result have your soul saved!

**Results of having one's soul saved:**

Rule and reign (with Christ) in the millennial kingdom (1,000 years) after raptured!

**Results of one's soul *not* being saved:**

During the millennial kingdom you live in darkness outside the kingdom!

**How One’s Soul Is Saved**

*“For what is a man* ***profited****, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in* ***exchange*** *for his soul? “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall* ***reward*** *every man according to his own works* (Matt. 16:26-27).

In the preceding verses the Lord uses the words “profit and exchange” which identifies this present life of the Christian as “the time of investment.” These are words that can only be used in connection with soul salvation since one cannot gain a *profit* until he makes an *investment* (is saved). Neither can he exchange his soul (life) for anything until he has a life that can be exchanged. Lost people have nothing that can be exchanged. Jesus is saying here to the carnal Christian that the world that is to come is much greater than this present world. It is so great that even if a believer came to personally own everything in this present world he would actually profit nothing, if in the process he lost his *soul* for the coming age (millennial kingdom). For it is through the *saved soul* (acquired now, by losing it here for Christ) that one inherits the next world and coming kingdom of our Lord.

*“Wherefore, lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the* ***engrafted*** *word, which is able to* ***save your souls***(James 1:21).”

In James 1:1-20 God gives special instructions to all believers who are interested in having their *souls* saved. Then in verse 21 He sums it all up by giving two commands which are “able to save your souls.” This portion of the book of James teaches us how a believer should grow from a spiritual *milk* diet to a *meat* diet and then on to a *strong meat* diet. In verse four God tells us that the salvation of the *soul* is based on the matured faith of the believer; a faith that has matured by overcoming the trials of this world and by learning patience. Therefore the one who presents a matured faith at the coming Judgment Seat of Christ will be the same one who, in this life, grows to be “perfect [lit. ’mature’] and entire, wanting nothing” (Jas. 1:4).

The process of this growth into mature faith is through the obedience of God’s command to “lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls” (Jas. 1:21). The word “filthiness” in the Greek as used here means “moral defilement” and the words “superfluity of naughtiness” mean “super-abundance of wickedness” (this describes a believer under the control of his soul, i.e. the seat of his old nature). Therefore God is saying in this verse that we must divorce ourselves from these things and open our “spiritual ears” (given you when you were saved) and receive with meekness the engrafted Word of God. As the Christian receives “the engrafted word” into his saved human spirit, the indwelling Holy Spirit takes this Word and opens it to his spiritual understanding. This engrafted or implanted Word, i.e. power of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, will cause you to grow from a milk diet to a meat diet and, as such, save your *souls.*

In Romans 12:2, God tells us more about this powerful implanted Word when He says:

*“Be not* ***conformed*** *to this world: but be ye* ***transformed*** *by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.”* (Romans 12:2)

There are two Greek words that are used in this verse of scripture which tells us how God saves the soul. These words are “conformed” and “transformed,” and they come in the form of a negative and positive command.

The Greek word for conformed is *suschematizo* which means to shape or fashion one thing like another. The force of this word tells us not to blueprint or layout our lives in accordance to this present world. This means to not allow those of the world to influence you, outline your life for you or become your peers in order to mold or fashion you into what they are. It even means to not allow worldly (carnal/soulical) Christians or churches to compress you into their own mold of fleshly desires, programs and goals.

For the second word, which is “transformed,” the Greek is *metamorphoo*. This word is in the positive command and means to “transform or transfigure *inwardly.”* Here God is commanding us to be changed *inwardly* and *automatically* by having our minds renewed. And how is this accomplished? The Apostle Paul in Colossians 3:10 tells us that our “new man” is continually renewed in the “knowledge” (Gr. *epignosis* or meat doctrines) after the image of the one who created us. This means that you do not change yourself, but instead rely on the *meat* doctrines of the Word to do this for you. As you feed on them they will *automatically* and *continuously* transform you from *within,* and as a result save your *soul.*

There is still another verse of scripture that helps us understand this automatic change.

*“But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord* (2 Cor. 3:18).”

In this verse the glass or *mirror* is the Word of God reflecting the glory of the Lord (meat doctrines). As we behold this in the reflected Word of God with an open face (continued look), we are *automatically* and *continuously* changed into the same image of the Lord from glory to glory (the saving of the soul).

**Being Not Conformed To This World, Or Dying To Self**

*Then Jesus said unto His disciples, ”If any man* [lit. ‘If anyone of you’] *will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. (25) “For whosoever will save his life will lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. (26) “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (27) “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his own works.* (Matt. 16:24-27)

Thousands of sermons have been and are presently being preached on how to be saved (salvation of the spirit) using this passage as a text. Those preaching them have never heard of the “three tenses of salvation” and have no idea of anything beyond initial salvation (salvation of the spirit). This passage however does not speak of the salvation of the *spirit,* but rather the salvation of the *soul.* According to verse 27 it is in the context of “rewards” not salvation. Here Jesus speaks of returning in glory and rewarding those who lost their lives (souls) for His sake in this present world. This passage then teaches that in order for a Christian to gain rewards at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow Jesus. Three things – *deny, cause to die, and follow****.*** This cannot be said to be the way of the salvation of the spirit because that salvation is not of works lest anyone should boast (Eph. 2:8-9). Therefore, it is the way to the “salvation of the soul” and calls for one who is already saved to die.

There are two different lifestyles that can be lived by a Christian. One is a *carnal* lifestyle and the other a *spiritual* lifestyle. The carnal life-style identifies any Christian who rejects the idea of having his *soul saved* and lives a worldly life while being satisfied with just being saved. His interests lie in this worldly experience together with the power, wealth and popularity that the world offers. In this lifestyle his unredeemed *soul,* which is *“self”* conscious, dominates his saved *spirit.*

On the other hand one who accepts the invitation to have his *soul* saved will strive to live a spiritual life, not being satisfied with just being saved. His interests will be in the coming kingdom and the power, wealth and glory that can be his. In this life-style his saved *spirit,* which is “God consciousness,” will dominate his not-as-yet saved *soul.* According to verse 24 (Matt. 16:24) a Christian cannot even follow Jesus until he first “denies” his soul of enjoying the rewards of this world and causes his soul to die by willingly taking up and carrying his own cross (instrument of execution of this world). Matt. 16:25 bears this out by telling us that if a believer saves his life here, he will lose it there, and vise versa.

The new believer must consider the costs in striving to have his *soul* saved since he must be willing to *lose* his life (soul) here for Jesus’ sake in order to *gain* it there (rewards) in the kingdom. Once he is willing to pay this price, he may experientially enter the second gate (standing grace gate) by faith gained from the Word of God. This faith will give him the victory necessary to lay aside all prevailing wickedness and to cleanse his spiritual ears to hear God’s Word (meat doctrines) that have already been engrafted in him at the new birth. Likewise, this strong faith that he will daily receive, live in, have joy and rejoice in will cause him to become an overcomer in all tribulation and temptation that may enter his life. This in turn will give him patience, experience and then hope that can provide a life that is mature, entire, and wanting in nothing; a life that experiences the love of God shed abroad in his heart; a life (soul) that is being saved with the opportunity to receive his set aside inheritance at the Judgment Seat of Christ, a life that is qualified to rule and reign with Jesus Christ over the millennial kingdom on earth!

**The Spiritual Pathway Summarized**

*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”* [The first gate – of Positional Grace] *(2) By whom we also have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.* [The second gate – the strait gate of Standing Grace] *(3) And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; (4) And patience experience; and experience hope: (5) And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us* [the Pathway].(Rom. 5:1-5)*.*

The “way of life” is to enter the firstgate of salvation (positional grace gate) through faith (in Christ) Then, through surrender of self and by a continuous faith, enter the second gate of “standing grace” (Christ in you). This reciprocal indwelling produces spiritual fruit in the believer’s life and *qualifies* him to run the race of the narrow pathway (sanctification) that leads to life (millennial life). This race can only be finished by the one who has a Christ-controlled life and whose eye is on the “mark of the prize of the high calling” (Phil. 3:13-14). This high calling prize demands a striving on the part of the runner to “get out of the way of himself” and let Christ win the race *through* him. This is made possible by continuously feeding on the meat of the Word, which automatically changes the runner inwardly.

The obstacles of this race are tribulation, and temptation. They are allowed by God in order to strengthen the faith of the runner, which in turn gives patience, experience and hope. Through this striving, it is Christ that crosses this finish line *through* us, and enters into the third and last gate – the Strait Gate of the “bridal chamber and wedding feast.”

**Summary**

One must make an investment (initial salvation of the spirit – believe and be justified) before one can make a profit (salvation of the soul warrants an inheritance)!

One must be obedient to God’s commands and receive His Word -- sanctification!

One must continually feed on the Word which automatically changes our minds and transforms us within -- sanctification!

One must deny enjoying the rewards of this world (causing his soul to die here) and follow Christ so his soul will then come alive there (salvation of the soul)!

One must enter the race and strive (sanctification) to cross the finish line and win the salvation of one's soul!