

God uses Prepared Believers

Because Zacharias and Elizabeth walked blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord they were open to greater service to the Lord. They were at the right place at the right time ready to receive their assignment from their Lord.

Because they were obedient and faithful in a few things they had opened their options up to experience the greater working of God in their lives.

Notice incidentally, that theirs was no assignment at all, but it was God working in their lives. It was the archangel Gabriel that was doing the work assigned by God by delivering God's revelation. All Zacharias and Elizabeth had to do was to receive special revelation and continue that which they were accustomed in doing on a day to day basis while the Lord was doing the work in the carrying out of His plan to send the Son.

The Response to God imputation of His Righteousness

Being made righteous is what the Lord does for each of us at the moment of faith alone in Christ Alone.

Walking blamelessly is the response of the individual having been saved; orientating one's self to the Master Who had redeemed him and entered him into the Lord's service.

Whereas it takes only one decision that results in receiving God's righteousness there are many decisions that the believer must make on a day to day and even a moment by moment basis to walk blamelessly in the Lord.

Principle of Doctrine:

1. Righteousness is what God does for the believer.

2. Walking blamelessly is what the believer does in response to God's grace and mercy.

Walking blamelessly begins with the correct environment.

John 1:5 **This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you that God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all.**

It is God that is the standard and the environment that we as believers must reside in. God does not rise to the standard but He is the high standard. God is not in an environment of light but He is the light, He is the environment.

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.

Col 2:6

ὁ θεὸς φῶς ἐστίν, καὶ σκοτία ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἐστίν οὐδεμία.

1 John 1:5

The world in the beginning (Genesis 1:2) was status quo darkness and it was to remain that way forever until the Lord changed its condition. It was the Lord that brought to that dark world His own environment, when he said;

"Light', and Light was." (Genesis 1:3)

God then separated the light from the darkness. (Genesis 1:4)

The Lord is the great separator. He separates light from the darkness.

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness

2 Corinthians 6:14

The Lord brought forth the light of His Glory into the world before the Creator did anything else and prior to restoring the earth. Sure, man would need logistics

to support life, Air to breath, food to eat, water to drink and so forth, but without light man is nothing and cannot and will not survive a purposeless life, for man's purpose for existence is found in the light not in darkness.

"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Matthew 16:26

In that environment of Light God created a world absent of sin. A pristine world set apart from the curse that was brought on by the creature Lucifer who led the revolt against God in the effort to disassociate himself from his creator and make himself like the most High God.

When God created Man, God created him in an environment of light. Man's natural habitat is in the light. It is in the light that man has Fellowship with God and with each other.

But there are those that will love the darkness for it is the darkness that gives man the flexibility to be his own god; to do his own thing; to orchestrate his own providence; to be the master of his own destiny; to create the world according to his own standard.

This is the Judgment that the light has come into the world and men loved the darkness rather than the Light for their deeds were evil, for everyone who does evil hates the Light and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

John 3:19

Walking in darkness is a cry for independence from God. Sin is the violation and insulting of the perfect character of God. One cannot reside in that environment while at the same time insulting God's perfect Character. So the individual will step into the darkness where he feels that he can make his own rules and live by his own standard; where he can be his own god not accountable to a higher supreme God.

Was it not the woman's ambition to be like God?

Temptation: **"For God knows (Satan speaking to the Woman) that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes and the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate;"**

Genesis 1:5-6

The woman could not choose her own way without first rejecting God's plan, will and purpose.

When the man and the woman sinned, the result was that they lost their perfect environment, spiritually and physically. Sin entered into the world. The Garden was yet pristine and yet remained for a time in the world, but the man and woman were now sinners not compatible with perfect environment.

We ask ourselves, "What must have been going through their heads? Adam and Eve had it all and to give it all up for a bite of fruit when they themselves had every tree to eat from?"

And because Adam did what he did the entire human race is condemned. At the moment physical birth each of us were born physically alive but spiritually dead.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned-

Romans 5:12

We might ask, "Why is it that the entire human race is condemned because of one man's sin?"

First of all remember that that one man was the head of human race.

Secondly there is not one of us who would have not done the same exact thing.

Because all sinned

Essentially each of us plays out the same scenario every time we sin against God. We have it all, and we lose it all the moment we sin.

Our personal sin is a demonstration that we ourselves as did the head of the human race would have sinned in the very likeness of Adam if we were there.

Spiritually the same conditions exist. God created for us our own perfect and pristine environment, it is a spiritual environment. It is the unique spiritual life. In eternity passed God;

1. chose us (Eph 1:4);
2. Predestined us (Eph 1:5);
3. blessed us with every spiritual blessing (Eph 1:3);
4. regenerated us (Titus 3:5)
5. Made us new Creatures (2 Cor 5:17)
6. Gave us a new start with a new birth (1 Pet 1:3, 23)
7. Washed clean our iniquities (Isaiah 43:25)
8. And places us in a perfect (spiritual) environment.
9. Provided us with purpose by giving us work (Eph 2:10)

We all start out at the point of our new birth in fellowship with the Lord, new Creatures free from sin.

Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.

Isaiah 1:18

For we (believers) **are His** (the creators) **workmanship** (just as Adam was created by God's own hands), **created in Christ Jesus for good works** (a purposeful God created Adam for a purpose) **which God prepared before hand** (there was no man to cultivate the ground;) **so that we would walk in them** (Adam's environment was in the perfect garden of God where he was to cultivate it and guard it, while enjoying fellowship with his creator)

Eph 2:10

The believer is created and placed in perfect spiritual environment where he is given stewardship of his own spiritual garden where he nurtures and protects it

while at the same time having fellowship with our Lord within this perfect environment.

And then there comes the temptation.

1. The lust of the eyes
2. The Lust of the flesh
3. The pride of life

And so we choose as did the man and woman to surrender ourselves to the temptation and thus are removed from our relationship with the Lord and our environment of the spiritual life.

For all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God

Romans 3:23

If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8

After Adam and his wife had sinned and saw that they were naked, they clothed themselves with fig leaves in effort to get right with each other and right with their environment and for a period of time it might have relaxed them into thinking that since they were right with each other and right with their environment that they must be right with God.

This was their substitution of morality in place of the protocol plan of God.

If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

1 John 1:6

In the darkness of Carnality again you and I as believers live out the same scenario. We use the fig leaves of morality, human good, as a substitute to God's protocol plan while we continue to walk in the darkness alienated from fellowship with God.

When the believer sins and steps out into darkness he has alienated himself from God's plan and relationship with Him.

The impact of personal sin upon the believer's life;

1. Looses the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit
 - a. Quenches the Holy Spirit (1 Thess 5:19)
 - b. Grieves the Holy spirit (Eph 4:30)

The ministry and the power of God the Holy Spirit are no longer at play in the life of the believer as they are quenched.

2. Because of the quenching of the ministry of God the Holy Spirit who is to be at work within us;
 - a. The believer is unable to learn bible doctrine.

I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still fleshly.

1 Corinthians 3:2

- b. There is no leading of the Holy Spirit in the believers life
- c. There is no production of good works

Any works performed outside of our spiritual environment is nothing but energy of the flesh apart from the power of the Holy Spirit and is classified as wood, hay, and stubble (1 Corinthians 3:12) to be burned up at the judgment seat of Christ.

- d. No prayer life

If I regard wickedness in my heart the Lord will not hear me.

Ps 66:18

- e. No fellowship with other believers
Ephesians chapter 5
- f. No fellowship with the Lord
(John 15:5)

There are no distinguishable qualities between the believer who walks in Darkness and those who are with our Christ.

3. The believer who walks perpetually in darks is said to be;

- a. Shipwrecked

Keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith

Timothy 1:19

- b. Enemies of the Cross

For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that *they are enemies of the cross of Christ* whose end is destruction, whose god is *their appetite*, and *whose glory is in their shame* who sets their minds on earthly things.

Philippians 3:18

- a. Fleshly

And I brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:1

4. If perpetuated the believer
 - a. Loses his witness for Christ
 - b. Looses spiritual historical impact; no blessing by association;
 - i. No salt and light impact to the nation
 - c. Subject to self induced misery making decisions from a position of weakness
 - d. Subject to divine discipline (Hebrews 12:6)
 - e. Subject to dyeing discipline where the believer will not lose his salvation but will die the sin unto death; a dishonorable discharge from life.
 - f. The believer will suffer loss in time.
 - g. The believer will suffer loss of rewards at the Judgment seat of Christ.