

## **Studies in I Peter (20)**

### The Responsibility of Salvation

#### Introduction

- A. While the Gospel is truth, historically verifiable, and characterized by the infinite power of God - the Gospel will be productive in the daily life of the believer only if the believer will obey God.
- B. This is not to imply that we earn the grace of God. However, because the Gospel is truth -- we must live in harmony with the truth.
- C. Peter has been presenting reasons why we should obey God. In this lesson we realize we should obey God because of the person of the Redeemer.

#### I. The Grace of God in the Believer's Salvation, I Peter 1:3-2:10

- A. The description of salvation, Vs 3-5 (Lesson # 11)
- B. The joy of salvation, Vs 6-9 (Lesson # 12)
- C. The greatness of salvation, Vs 10-12 (Lesson # 13)
- D. The responsibility of salvation, Vs 1:12-2:3
  - 1. The responsibility of dedication, V 13 (Lesson # 14)
  - 2. The responsibility of holiness, Vs 14,15 (lesson # 15)
- 3. The Biblical reasons for obeying God, Vs 16-21
  - a. Because of divine revelation, V 16 (Lesson # 16)
  - b. Because of personal accountability, V 17 (Lesson # 17)
- c. Because of redemption, Vs 18-20 (Lessons # 18,19,20)

*Redeemed . . . with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you. Vs 18-20*

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1) The Redeemer designated -- "Christ."

- a) The title clarified: "Christ" means "Messiah."

The word "Christos" means "anointed" and was often used throughout the Old Testament to indicate a person chosen by God. The term was also applied to the coming Redeemer. Many Old Testament passages, types, and symbols were given by God to prepare the people for the Messiah.

- b) The title explained.

- 1) The prophetic announcement.

*And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize with water, but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not . . . The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:25-29*

2) The wide-spread expectation.

*The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ, when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her. I that speak unto thee am he. John 4:25,16*

3) The personal testimony.

One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

*He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. John 1:40,41*

4) The apostolic confession.

*When Jesus ... asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? ... And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Matthew 16:13,16*

5) The apostolic design.

*And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name. John 20:30,31*

2) The Redeemer described.

- a) His holy character: "a lamb without blemish and without spot."
- b) His valuable death: "redeemed ... with the precious blood."
- c) His eternal appointment: "foreordained before the foundation of the world."
- d) His revelation in time: "manifest in these last times."
- e) His goal indicated: "for you."

Conclusion: It is important that we grasp the significance of this passage and understand what it means to have a relationship with the Redeemer -- Who is the eternal Son of God. He Who has come into our life with the grace and power of spiritual redemption is the eternal, all-powerful Creator of heaven and earth. His love for us, His compassion upon us, His work for us, His gift of grace to us, and His presence with us -- should have a transforming effect upon us.

Why should we obey God? In the light of our text -- to fail to do so would indicate either the depth of ignorance or serious demonic deception. We must face the truth -- we do not belong to ourselves -- but to our Redeemer.

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