

The Benefits of Soul Winning

Introduction

- A. In one sense it is impossible to speak of the "benefits of soul winning" in that the "soul" of a person is worth more than the whole world.

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Mark 8:36

- B. In another sense the Bible describes the great benefits that come into the life of a person when he is won to Christ. It is this area of thought that is being covered in this lesson.
- C. There are three emphases that should be kept in mind in looking at these verses from the Bible. First, we may learn how to use such verses in our work with people; second, we will more clearly see what has happened to us in that we have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; and, third, we will see what will be brought to a person if we can be used of God in leading him to Christ.

I. An Illustration of This Theme in a Single Passage.

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For, if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Romans 5:6-10

Need: "without strength"

Need: "ungodly"

Need: "sinners"

Provision: "justified"

Provision: "saved from wrath"

Need: "enemies"

Provision: "reconciled"
Provision: "(kept) saved by His life (in heaven)"

Man's Need

God's Provision

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1.-Without strength | 1. Justified |
| 2.-Ungodly | 2. Saved from wrath |
| 3.-Sinners | 3. Reconciled |
| 4.-Enemies | 4. Saved by His life |

(Note: the provision of God cancels the need of the sinner!)

Reminder: All of this gracious provision is rooted in two great truths.

1. The love of God, V8.
2. The death of Jesus Christ as our substitute, V8.

II. The Benefits the Gospel will Bring into the Life of a Believing Sinner.

A. The Gospel Brings the Grace of God, Acts 20:24.

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Observation: The "grace of God" has to do with all those benefits which his love has provided for us. Griffith Thomas said, "Grace is the love of God in action toward sinful men." When we lead a person to Jesus Christ they become the recipients of this grace. In fact, it is grace itself which wins them!

B. The Gospel Brings Salvation, Romans 1:16.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Observation: Here Paul is using salvation in all three of the New Testament emphases. Past tense salvation is the new birth; present tense salvation is how we now live for God; and, future tense salvation has to do with our glorification. All of this flows into the life of the one who receives Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

C. The Gospel Brings the New Birth, I Corinthians 4:15.

For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

Observation: The term "begotten" refers to the new birth - the act of God whereby we are given spiritual life. The method God has chosen to bring people to Himself is through having them hear the gospel. As they hear the message of the gospel - the benefits of the gospel are brought to those whom God has chosen. These truths should encourage us to give out the Word - we are working together with God!

D. The Gospel Brings Peace, Ephesians 6:15.

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

Observation: The peace of God is first of all a relationship and only then an emotional feeling. It is the relationship in which there is no alienation, hostility or blame. We have been forgiven and accepted by God. This is the meaning of peace.

E. The Gospel Brings Hope, Colossians 1:23.

If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven

Observation: The word "hope" may be explained as "faith applied to the future" or "the certainty of faith's expectation". It is a transforming attitude of trusting God for the future. Only the gospel brings one the ability to so trust God.

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