

The Christian and His Promised Deliverance

Introduction

- A. Occasionally we find ourselves thinking, "I wish that were not in my life". All of us will have to admit that there are certain relationships, problems, difficulties in life that we believe we could do without.
- B. While it is wrong to covet and we must believe and practice the principle of Romans 8:28, we still recognize that God often allows some things to come into our daily life so that we can be helped by rejecting them. Temptation would be a good example of this (James 1:12).
- C. It is interesting and comforting to realize that it is God's will that we be delivered from many of those things which are injurious to us. Jesus Christ is described in Bible as our Deliverer.

. . . As it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. Romans 11:26

I. The Christian Has Been Delivered from the Demands of the Law, Romans 7:6.

But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held, that we should serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Observation: In our sin we failed to obey the law of God and by our failure brought judgment and death into our lives. Jesus Christ came into the world to fulfill the law for us in His life and death (Matt. 5:17; Rom. 5:19). When we believed upon Him as Savior and Lord the benefit of His work was given to us and we are now seen as free from the demands and the curse of the Law (Rom. 8:3,4; 10:3,4; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-6). To have the assurance of this we must understand our need, Christ's work, and accept the truth as final.

II. The Christian Has Been Delivered from the Old Nature, Romans 7:2U,25.

O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord

Observation: Jesus Christ has brought the deliverance that Paul cried to receive. All believers sense the seriousness of this need. We have a sinful "nature" or "function" or "facet" or "dimension" within us that gives us a great deal of trouble. When Jesus Christ died He dealt with that sinful facet of our life and delivered us (Romans 6:6). To have the power of this deliverance practically worked out in us we must choose to be free and learn how to appropriate by faith the power of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection (Romans 6:11-13,17,18).

III. The Christian Has Been Delivered from the World, Galatians 1:4.

. . . Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present world, according to the will of God and our Father.

Observation: By the term "world" Paul is referring to culture and manner of life which characterizes the non-Christian. This is a self-seeking type of life (I John 2:15-17). When we became Christians we were separated from this world's system and brought into the Kingdom of God where the motivation of life is entirely different in that we are to live for the Glory of God (John 17:14,15; I Cor. 10:31). Again we see it is necessary to choose to be free for this deliverance to be a practical reality in daily life.

IV. The Christian Has Been Delivered from Satan, Colossians 1:13.

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.

Observation: The Bible reminds us that the non-Christian lives according to the blueprint of life largely prescribed by Satan. Jesus Christ defeated Satan in His death and Resurrection. The Christian shares in this victory. We have been translated out of kingdom of Satan. He no longer owns us. For this deliverance to be fully realized in our life we must renounce sin, break the control of Satan, and daily choose to live according to the Scripture.

V. The Christian Has Been Delivered from the Wrath of Hell, I Thess. 1:10.

And to wait for His Son from Heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Observation: The non-Christian is under the judgment of God and if he persists in his rejection of Jesus Christ will suffer eternally under the judgment of God (Luke 13³ⁱ John 3:36; 5:^{^0}; 8:2U). The Christian has been delivered from Hell (John 306; II Cor. 5:8). Many believers lack the assurance of this deliverance. We must believe God and take Him at His Word.

VI. The Christian Has Been Delivered from the Fear of Death, Hebrews 2:14,15.

Forasmuch then as the children (race) are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same, that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the Devil, and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Observation: Jesus Christ in His death and Resurrection has suffered our death and delivered us from that penalty as well as the fear and the resultant bondage related to death. He is described as having the "Keys of Hell and of death" (Rev. 1:18). Many true believers still live with fear concerning death. We must reject this fear and believe God and His promise.

VII. The Christian Has Been Delivered from Sin and Temptation, II Peter 2:9.

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

Observation: Because the power of sin has been broken by Jesus Christ the Christian can say "No" to temptation.