



Know What You Believe

- ❖ **David J. Fischer**
- ❖ **Pittsford Community Church**
- ❖ **College Class**
- ❖ **Fall 1996**



Motivation for knowing the Fundamentals

- ❖ **"...a Christian lay person, who does not have to be an expert in theology but does nevertheless have to take responsibility for his faith in his non-Christian milieu, must have at his disposal this kind of a brief formulation of his profession of faith which is oriented towards the essentials of this faith." - Karl Rahner, Foundations of Christian Faith, p448**
- ❖ **"...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence." 1 Peter 3:15**



10 Fundamentals of the Faith

- ⇒ **Inerrancy of Original Scripture Documents**
- ❖ **Trinity - One God in three persons**
- ❖ **Virgin Birth of Jesus**
- ❖ **Resurrection of Jesus**
- ❖ **Return of Jesus**
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- ❖ **Justification by shed blood of Jesus**
- ❖ **Second birth of believers of Holy Spirit**
- ❖ **Great Commission**
- ❖ **Bodily resurrection of believers**



Why does this truth matter?

- ❖ **Written record is needed to reach all men**
- ❖ **Witness for those not present to see Jesus in action**
- ❖ **If the knowledge of salvation is to be known, there must be a reliable source of information. If the Bible is this source, but isn't reliable, then we cannot know what is true about God's revelation to us.**



What does it mean?

- ❖ **The Bible originated in the mind of God**
- ❖ **The Bible was given to man by "inspiration"**
- ❖ **Men wrote it, in their words, with their words, in their own, personal, unique style**
- ❖ **"Plenary" inspiration - full inspiration. The whole thing, not just parts.**
- ❖ **"Verbal" inspiration - the words are inspired, and not just the thoughts.**
- ❖ **Inerrancy applies only to the text as originally produced by the writers**



Can you support that?

❖ Old Testament

- **Romans 3:2, 15:4**
- **Matthew 5:17**

1 Corinthians 10:11
Acts 4:24-25

❖ New Testament

- **2 Timothy 3:16**
- **1 Corinthians 2:12-13**

2 Peter 1:21, 3:15-16
1 Timothy 5:18

❖ Canon

- **fixed in AD 367 and confirmed in AD 397**
- **Criteria of canonical books**
 - ◆ **Apostolic origin?**
 - ◆ **used and recognized by the churches?**
 - ◆ **teach sound doctrine?**



How has this been perverted?

- ❖ **"Inspired" applies only to theological issues, nothing else**
- ❖ **The Bible "contains" the word of God, as opposed to being the word of God. It isn't wholly inerrant.**
- ❖ **It's all figurative**
- ❖ **It's all literal**



What can we do with it?

- ❖ **Thank God for it**
- ❖ **Read it**
- ❖ **Use it for the basis of moral truth**
- ❖ **Test your behavior & thoughts what it teaches**
- ❖ **Test others' teaching against it's teachings**



What is our application?

- ❖ **Memorize 2 Tim 3:16**
- ❖ **Ask a friend what he thinks about the Bible. Find out if he thinks it is mythical, unreliable, reliable, wholly inspired**



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Why does this truth matter?

- ❖ **It circumscribes and safeguards the mystery of God being one God yet acting in 3 persons.**
- ❖ **The doctrine does not seek to explain this truth -- that is beyond human reason [Packer 40]**



What does it mean?

- ❖ **One God**
- ❖ **Three personal distinctions**
- ❖ **The Son and the Spirit are said to be subordinate to the Father. This does not mean they are inferior. They are subordinate in relationship**
- ❖ **Father originates. He is First.**
- ❖ **Son is eternally begotten of the Father. He is second. He reveals.**
- ❖ **Spirit eternally proceeds from the Father and the Son. He is third. He executes.**



Can you support that?

- ❖ **Gen 1:1-3** **Father, Spirit, word**
- ❖ **Deut 6:4-5** **Lord is One Lord**
- ❖ **Gen 1:26** **"Us"**
- ❖ **Isaiah 48:16-17** **God sent His Spirit**
- ❖ **Matt 28:18-20** **Father, Son, Spirit**
- ❖ **John 10:30** **I and Father are one**
- ❖ **John 15:26** **Helper proceeds from Father**
- ❖ **John 14:10-21** **Son, Father, Spirit (Helper)**
- ❖ **Matt 26:36-46** **Jesus yields to God's will**



How has this been perverted?

- ❖ **Modalism**
- ❖ **Originated from a man named Sabellius in third century.**
- ❖ **It states that the Father, Son, Spirit are merely different manifestations which God assumes to achieve His purposes.**
- ❖ **Analogy: God has a mask for each person. He dons a mask to assume a role to achieve some goal.**
- ❖ **Flaw: "One God" so dominates that "three persons" is perverted and destroyed**



How has this been perverted? (cont.)

- ❖ **Tritheism**
- ❖ **Arius (~AD325)**
- ❖ **States that God is split into three different persons. The Son and Spirit are lesser, subordinate beings whom the Father willed into existence to act as His agents with men and the world**
- ❖ **Analogy: A group of three separate Gods, with one clearly the head. God #1 created God #2, & #3 to do his will**
- ❖ **Flaw: "Three persons" so dominates that "One God" is perverted and destroyed.**



What can we do with it?

- ❖ **Pay equal attention to each person of the Trinity**
- ❖ **Pay equal honor to each person of the Trinity**
- ❖ **Be thankful for how each has worked in your life**
 - **God** **Being God. For creating**
 - **Jesus** **Dying for our sins**
 - **Spirit** **Providing new life. Enables us to know Father**
 - ◆ **Rom 8:16**
 - ◆ **Gal 5:22-23**
 - ◆ **Rom 8:1-4**
- ❖ **Worship all three persons of the Godhead**



What is our application?

- ❖ **Memorize Matthew 28:18-20**
- ❖ **Ask a friend what he thinks about God. Find out if he thinks there is a God. What does he think this God is like? Does he believe in a triune God?**



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Why does this truth matter?

- ❖ **"Liberalism, seeking to desupernaturalize the faith and reinterpret Jesus as no more than a uniquely godly and insightful teacher cast doubts" on the supernatural nature of Jesus' birth (Packer 111)**
- ❖ **To deny this is to strike at the essential supernatural nature of Jesus**
- ❖ **It also clearly illustrates the dual nature of Jesus: He is both fully human (of human birth), and fully divine (a virgin birth)**



What does it mean?

- ❖ **Mary became pregnant by the Holy Spirit's creative action without sexual activity**
- ❖ **Helps show that Jesus was fully human and fully man.**
- ❖ **Jesus left supernaturally via resurrection and ascension. A supernatural birth is very fitting**
- ❖ **Matthew and Luke are more concerned with God fulfilling his redemptive purpose, than in the apologetic nature of this event.**



What does it mean? (cont.)

❖ Human

- Jesus was tempted as we are. He can understand us.**
- He was physically limited as we are: hungry, tired, angry, troubled, sorrow, suffered**
- He had human relationships: love, compassion, friends.**
- Thus, he can understand us and help us.**

❖ Divine

- He resisted sinful temptations. He can enable us to do so.**
- He was God incarnate. He revealed God to man in a new way, and so we can know God through that.**

❖ Able to help us in our human condition

- Heb 2:17-18**
- Heb 4:14-16**
- Heb 5:2, 7-9**



Support for Virgin Birth

❖ **Matt 1:22-23**

❖ **Luke 1:26-56; 2:4-7**



Support for Jesus being human

- ❖ **has a family** **Matt 13:55; Mark 3:31**
- ❖ **tempted** **Matt 4:1-11**
- ❖ **eats & drinks** **Mark 3:20; Luke 5:29-32**
- ❖ **has friends** **Luke 5:29-32; John 2:1-3**
- ❖ **value system** **Matt 5-8**
- ❖ **compassion** **Mark 1:29-39**
- ❖ **sorrows** **John 11:1-35**
- ❖ **suffers** **Mark 15:15-23; Luke 23:26;**
- ❖ **betrayed** **Matt 26:47-56**
- ❖ **dies** **Matt 27:50; Mark 15:37**



Support for Jesus being divine

- ❖ **John 20:24-28** **(E) Resurrected**
- ❖ **John 10:30** **(E) “I and the Father are one”**
- ❖ **John 26:63-65** **(E) Son of God, Christ**
- ❖ **Mark 2:1-12** **(E) heals paralytic**
- ❖ **John 11:43-44** **(E) resurrects Lazarus**
- ❖ **Mark 2:1-12** **(I) forgives sin**
- ❖ **John 11:21-27** **(I) resurrection and life**
- ❖ **John 14:6** **(I) only way to the Father**
- ❖ **John 6:47-58** **(I) bread of life**
- ❖ **(E) = Explicit** **(I) = Implicit**



How has this been perverted? Not fully Human.

- ❖ **Denials that Jesus was a human (2 John 7)**
- ❖ **Docetism: Jesus was a supernatural visitant who seemed human but was really a kind of phantom, a teacher who didn't really die for our sins. Based on assumption that matter is inherently evil**
- ❖ **Monophytism: Jesus has only a divine nature**
- ❖ **Arians taught that Christ was created by the Father and was the highest of all created beings, but was not eternally self-existent.**



How has this been perverted? Not fully divine.

- ❖ **Ebionites denied Jesus was God. They conceded that he had a peculiar relationship with God, and subsequent to his baptism the fullness of the Holy Spirit rested on Him**
- ❖ **Apollinarians taught that Jesus has a true body & soul, but that his divine nature replaced his human mind or spirit.**



How has this been perverted? Not fully either.

- ❖ **The 2 natures were like alternating electrical currents so that sometimes He acted by his human nature; others by his divine nature**
- ❖ **Mestorius denied the real union between the divine and human natures. He made it a moral, not an organic (real) union. Almost a matter of 2 natures and 2 persons, instead of 2 natures in 1 person.**
- ❖ **Eutychians denied the distinction and coexistence of the 2 natures. They said they mingled and became a third nature unique to Christ. Thus, he wasn't truly human, nor truly divine.**



What can we do with it?

- ❖ **Just as God used Mary, a sinful human, to bring Jesus, a perfect man, into the world, so can He use you to carry out his perfect plans.**
- ❖ **Take joy and comfort in a Savior who is both human and divine; who can save and understand.**



What is our application?

- ❖ **Memorize Heb 4:14-15**
- ❖ **Ask a friend what he thinks about Jesus. Does he believe that Jesus lived or not? Why or why not? If so, then does he think Jesus is man, or divine, or both? Why or why not?**



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What does “Resurrection” mean?

- ❖ **Jesus physically rose from the dead**
- ❖ **Transformation of Jesus' body that enabled him to appear, vanish, move unseen (Luke 24:31, 36)**
- ❖ **Creative renewing of his original body, which is now fully glorified and deathless (Phil 3:20-21)**



What does “Ascension” mean?

- ❖ **Part 2 of Jesus' return from death to glory**
- ❖ **Glorified human nature in a novel way**
- ❖ **Start of a reign not previously exercised in this form**



What does “Session” mean?

- ❖ **It is Christ's present role in glory**
- ❖ **He sits at God's right hand as executive ruler (Eph 1:20-22)**
- ❖ **Christ serves as our advocate (1 John 2:1)**
- ❖ **Ends when all enemies (including death) are brought to nothing**
- ❖ **After judgment Christ will triumphantly deliver the kingdom to the Father (1 Cor 15:24-28)**



Why does “Resurrection” matter?

- ❖ **Confirms the truth and value of Jesus' teachings (1 Cor 15:12-19)**
- ❖ **Christianity rests on the certainty of the resurrection**
 - Acts insisted on it (Acts 1:3)
 - Paul considered it indisputable proof
- ❖ **Demonstrated Jesus' victory over death**
- ❖ **Guarantees our present forgiveness and justification (Rom 4:25)**
- ❖ **Basis of our new life here and now (Eph 1:18-20)**



Why does “Ascension” matter?

- ❖ **Puts Jesus back with the Father**
- ❖ **Jesus enters heaven as a forerunner for us**



Why does “Session” matter?

- ❖ **Jesus is now accessible to all who invoke him, powerful to help, and provides us with access to God (Heb 4:16)**
- ❖ **(In OT only High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies, and only on the Day of Atonement)**
- ❖ **He intercedes for His people**
- ❖ **He sends the Holy Spirit constantly to enrich us and equip us (John 16:7-8, 15)**



Can you support that?

❖ Resurrection

- **Luke 24 (33-43)**
- **Compare Mark 14:66-72 vs. Acts 2:22-24 (changed life)**
- **Our new body: Phil 3:20-21**

❖ Ascension

- **Luke 24:50-53**

❖ Session

- **Eph 1:19b-23**
- **Heb 4:14-16**



How has this been perverted?

❖ Denials of resurrection

- **Disciples saw a ghost (but see Luke 24:38)**
- **"Swoon" theory: Christ didn't really die, disciples were deceived**
 - ◆ **half-dead man roll aside stone?**
 - ◆ **half-dead man overpower Roman guards?**
- **Mass hallucination**
 - ◆ **they didn't expect Jesus to rise again**
 - ◆ **they had to be persuaded (Luke 24:36-45)**
 - ◆ **Christ appeared 10 different times in different places, once to >500 people**
- **Apostles stole body**
 - ◆ **this would mean church fathers were deceivers**
 - ◆ **they all died for proclaiming allegiance to Christ**



What can we do with it?

***“How the angels must
wonder that we make so
little use of this privilege
of audience with the
King!”***

-- Paul Little



What is our application?

- ❖ **Memorize John 10:17**
- ❖ **Consider: If Jesus returns this afternoon, will He find you ready?**
- ❖ **Take a bit more time this week for prayer**



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Primary

- ❖ **Jesus is returning! (Matt 24:27-31)**
- ❖ **He's taking us with him, dead or alive!
(1 Thess 4:13-18)**
- ❖ **We don't know when! (Matt 24:36)**
- ❖ **He's going to judge everyone! (Matt 25:31-32)**
- ❖ **Be ready! (Matt 24:44, 1 John 2:28-29)**



Secondary - Return

- ❖ **Personal and physical (Matt 24:44)**
- ❖ **Visible and triumphant (Rev 1:7)**
- ❖ **End history, raise dead, judge world
(John 5:28-29)**
- ❖ **Impart to God's children their final glory
(Col 3:4)**
- ❖ **Last and final triumph of mediatorial kingdom.
This completes redemption.**
- ❖ **Tragic disaster if it finds anyone in an
unprepared state (Matt 24:36-51)**



Secondary - Rapture

- ❖ **Christ will return in a descent from the sky, heralded by a trumpet fanfare, shout, voice of archangel (1 Thess 4:16)**
- ❖ **Living believers will be caught up into the clouds to meet Jesus to return with Him as part of his triumphant escort (1 Thess 4:17)**
- ❖ **"And thus we shall always be with the Lord (1 Thess 4:17)**



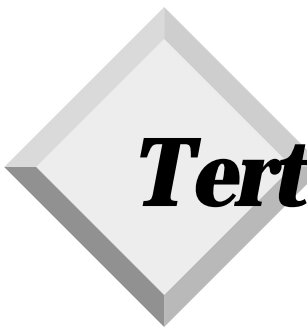
Secondary - Heaven

- ❖ **Jesus hands over kingdom to Father. Signifies completion of plan to bring elect to heaven (1 Cor 15:24)**
- ❖ **The elect will forever honor the Lamb as the one who was able to make what was planned happen (Rev 5)**



Secondary - Time

- ❖ **"... the predictions ... do not yield even an approximate date for Jesus' reappearance."**
- ❖ **One prophecy was an event - Fall of Jerusalem - and has been accomplished**
- ❖ **Other prophecies are processes that must be completed**



Tertiary - Antichrist

- ❖ **Satan's opposition will culminate in the appearance of a being call the "AntiChrist"**
- ❖ **He will deny the Father and the Son (1 John 2:22)**
- ❖ **These might be traits:**
 - **Inspired by Satan and endowed with supernatural powers**
 - **Ecclesiastical leader who will manipulate religion for his own ends.**
 - **Demand political allegiance and exercise economic pressure to force compliance**
 - **Enemies of him will suffer in the Tribulation**



Tertiary - Terminology

❖ Premillennialists

- Believe Christ will come before he reigns with his resurrected saints for 1000 years**
- Believe in literal 1000 year reign**
- Pre-Tribulation - Jesus returns for church before Trib. Jesus will return again after with church to reign**
- Mid-Tribulation - Rapture occurs in middle of Trib**
- Post-Tribulation - Rapture is after the Trib. Return and revelation are one event**

❖ Amillennialists

- 1000 year reign is a symbol of the ideal church, not literal**
- 1000 year reign represents God's working in history**



Applications

- ❖ **Live each day as if Jesus is returning tomorrow**
- ❖ **Press on to greater Christian action (2 Cor 15:58)**
- ❖ **Live as if life is on the call (Matt 25:1-13, 2 Pet 3:11)**
- ❖ **Tell others**
- ❖ **"The details of His next appearance are interesting and important to study, but differences in interpretation should never obscure the fact itself." (Little)**



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Creation of Man

- ❖ **God purposefully created man in His Image (Gen 1:1-27)**
- ❖ **Woman was made to help man (Gen 2:18-22)**
- ❖ **Man was placed in a state of happiness and promised continued happiness contingent on obedience to God**
- ❖ **Man was without sin. He was holy (Ecc 7:29)**
- ❖ **This account is clearly written as history, not allegory or myth**



Fall of Man (Gen 3:1-24)

- ❖ **Serpent tempted Eve and she ate the fruit**
 - **Doubt God's word (3:1)**
 - **Disbelieve God's word (3:4)**
 - **Disobey God's word (3:6)**
- ❖ **Eve gave the fruit to Adam, and he ate**
- ❖ **Immediate consequences**
 - **sorrow**
 - **shame (3:7)**
 - **guilt (3:10)**
 - **hard physical labor (3:16, 18)**
 - **separation from God (3:8)**
 - **physical and spiritual death (3:19)**



All humanity is affected by sin

- ❖ **Adam was the representative of all mankind (Gen 3:22-24)**
- ❖ **Through Adam death was introduced (Rom 5:12-14)**
- ❖ **Sin was transmitted to all people as a basic part of their nature (1 John 1:8-10)**
- ❖ **We are incapable of pleasing God, and are spiritually dead, in our natural state (Eph 2:1-5)**



Description of Sin

- ❖ **Rebellion against God in thought and deed (Gen 3:1-7, Matt 5:20-30)**
- ❖ **What comes from an evil heart (Mark 7:20-23)**
- ❖ **Denying the truth of God (Rom 1:18)**
- ❖ **Lack of conformity to the law of God in act, habit, attitude, outlook, disposition, motivation, and mode of existence**



Consequence of Sin

- ❖ **Physical Death (Gen 3:19)**
- ❖ **Spiritual Death (Rom 6:23)**
- ❖ **Separation from God (Gen 3:8)**
- ❖ **Evil deeds (Gal 5:19-21)**



Sidenotes

- ❖ **Total Depravity -
Fully sinful in extent, not in degree**
- ❖ **The Fall explains how sin entered the human race, not how evil entered the world**
- ❖ **Adam and Eve were personally responsible for their sin. They had no sin nature, so it entered externally**
- ❖ **We are responsible being "sons" of Adam; because God has revealed the truth to us; and shown us the means of redemption**



How this has been perverted

- ❖ **Man is a soul trapped in an evil body**
- ❖ **Man is continually improving (compare to Rom 1:18-32)**
- ❖ **Pelagianism: British monk Pelagius believed that Adam's sin affected only Adam. We could be sinless if we chose not to sin, and indeed, some men have lived free of sin. He also asserted that we don't need supernatural help to live a righteous life. He did recognize the force of habit of sin, and its harmful example to others**

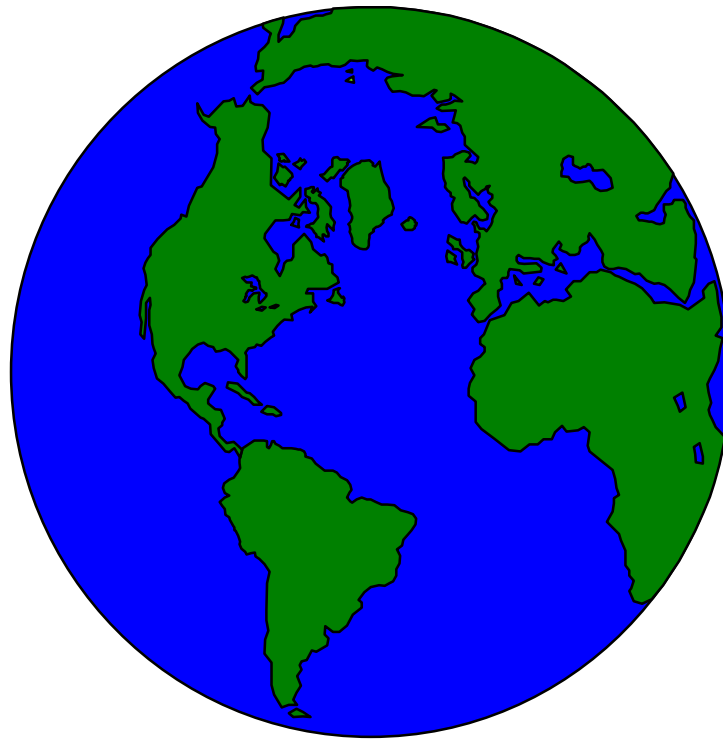


How this has been perverted (cont.)

- ❖ **Semi-Pelagianism: The belief that in the Fall man lost the supernatural gift of righteousness which was not by his nature to begin with. Man reverted to his natural state. So man is only half sick. Man still has a special gift of the Spirit which is sufficient to enable him to be righteous if he allows his will to cooperate with God's Spirit**

What is our application?

- ❖ **Memorize Rom 6:23**
- ❖ **Take time to 'update' your "World-View".**





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We've got a problem

- ❖ **All have sinned; all have rebelled against God (Rom 3:23)**
- ❖ **We've offended our Holy Creator, whose nature it is to hate sin (Hab 1:13) and to punish it (Ps 5:4-6)**
- ❖ **We are incapable of pleasing God (Job 15:14-16, Rom 8:7), and are spiritually dead, in our natural state (Eph 2:1-3)**
- ❖ **No acceptance or fellowship with such a God can be expected unless atonement is made**



We need a solution

- ❖ **God's wrath must be absorbed and quenched**
- ❖ **God's justice must be served**
- ❖ **Man's anti-God heart must be changed**
- ❖ **Reconciliation is needed**
- ❖ **We've got to be Justified!**



Executive Summary of Doctrine of Justification

- ❖ **Jesus was the perfect sacrifice when. He became sin and suffered our punishment, satisfying God's justice (Rom 3:25-26)**
- ❖ **Accepting Christ in faith, we are justified and do not suffer the penalty of sin (Rom 3:27-28)**
- ❖ **By Christ's resurrected life, we are sanctified and enabled to overcome sin in the here and now (Rom 5:9-11)**
- ❖ **Justification is gained by faith in Jesus as crucified Savior and risen Lord (Eph 2:8)**
- ❖ **This faith involves Mind, Will, Emotions**



Justification

- ❖ **Justice is served by punishment of sins**
 - **Christ assumed our identity, as it were, and endured the retributive judgment due us (Gal 3:13) satisfying the claims of God's Holy Law (Rom 3:25-26)**
 - **He was our substitute, with our damning record of transgressions nailed to the cross (Col 2:14)**
- ❖ **Mercy is given by saving us from eternal penalty of sin**
 - **Wholly God's initiative. A gift of His love towards us (1 John 4:8-10)**
 - **Jesus was always doing the Father's will (John 8:28-29)**
- ❖ **We have become the righteousness of God (2 Cor 5:21)**



Sanctification

- ❖ **We are set apart for God's use and declared holy at time of conversion (1 Cor 6:11)**
- ❖ **We are being made holy; being transformed into Christ's likeness (2 Peter 3:18)**
- ❖ **There is dual responsibility**
 - **God is responsible to initiate & empower us to pursue holiness**
 - **We are responsible to take action and pursue holiness (Phil 2:12-13)**
- ❖ **We are being delivered from power of sin (Gal 5:16, 22-23)**
- ❖ **We are given all we need in Christ. (2 Peter 1:3)**



Ransom

- ❖ **Ransom: the redemption of a prisoner, slave, or kidnapped person, etc. for a price. the sum or price paid or demanded**
- ❖ **Jesus paid our ransom -- the price paid to meet the holy requirements of God's law
(1 Tim 2:5-6)**



Propitiation

- ❖ **Guys can propitiate their girlfriends with flowers**
- ❖ **God is propitiated (His wrath is appeased) by the sacrificial gift (1 John 4:10)**



Mediation

- ❖ **Jesus is mediator between us and God
(1 Tim 2:5)**
- ❖ **He was ideally qualified to mediate: He was both man and God and thus able to relate to both parties perfectly**



Reconciliation

- ❖ **Reconciliation implies former hostility**
- ❖ **As sinners we were enemies of God.**
- ❖ **Jesus made peace by His sacrificial bloodshed (Col 1:19-20), on the basis of His perfect obedience to God (Rom 5:19)**
- ❖ **Christ's death took away our sin, thus removing the cause of God's enmity (Rom 5:10)**
- ❖ **We have peace with God (Rom 5:1)**
- ❖ **We are adopted children in God's family (Gal 4:5)**



Perversions of Justification doctrine

❖ "Moral Influence" or "Example" theory

- Man needs only to repent and reform to be reconciled to God. Christ is the powerful example of a man committed to truth and righteousness at any cost. We are redeemed as we follow His example**
- While Christ is a strong example (1 Peter 2:21), Scripture teaches that Christ died for our sins**

❖ "Governmental" theory

- Atonement is a requirement of God's government of the universe. Pardon must be accompanied by some exhibition of the high estimate God places on His law**
- Why would the perfect man suffer? This is incidental to Christ being made sin for us that we might be the righteousness of God**



Perversions of Justification doctrine

❖ "Accidental" theory

- Christ's death was unexpected and unforeseen**
- Prophets predicted Messiah's death. Jesus clearly anticipated it (John 12:27, Matt 26:39) and viewed it as his purpose (John 10:17-18)**

❖ "Another Martyr" theory

- Though his death may have been anticipated by sensitivity to events, he was essentially a martyr of history**
- How could forgiveness come from His death? This doesn't account for Matt 26:28**



Application

- ❖ **Memorize Romans 6:23**
- ❖ **Do prep work for next week**
- ❖ **We have personal responsibility in our sanctification. We must exercise our will to serve God (knowing that He has enabled us to do so)**
- ❖ **Recognize both the simplicity of salvation, and its incredible rich complexity**



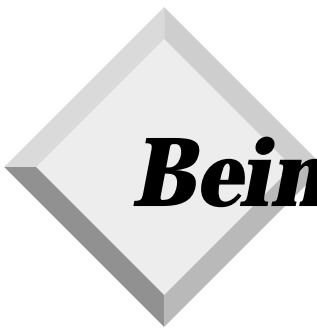
10 Fundamentals of the Faith

- ❖ **Inerrancy of Original Scripture Documents**
- ❖ **Trinity - One God in three persons**
- ❖ **Virgin Birth of Jesus**
- ❖ **Resurrection of Jesus**
- ❖ **Return of Jesus**
- ❖ **Original Sin**
- ❖ **Justification by shed blood of Jesus**
- ⇒ **Second birth of believers of Holy Spirit**
- ❖ **Great Commission**
- ❖ **Bodily resurrection of believers**



Were Saved ($t = 0$)

- ❖ **Born of and Baptized by Spirit (John 3:5)**
- ❖ **Spirit dwells in us from salvation (Rom 8:9-11)**
- ❖ **Sealed by Holy Spirit (Eph 1:13-14)**
 - **Seal is a symbol of a finished transaction, ownership**
 - **We have certainty and assurance of salvation**



Being Saved ($0 < t < \text{death}$)

❖ We are given much by the Spirit

- Ability to understand things of God (1 Cor 2:12-16)**
- Freedom from Sin (Rom 8:2)**
- Transforms us (2 Cor 3:18, Gal 5:22-23)**
- Makes us Children of God (Rom 8:14-17)**
- Gives us assurance (Rom 8:16)**
- Gifts us for ministry (1 Cor 12:4-11)**

❖ We need to 'work' with the Spirit

- Ever be filled by the Spirit (Eph 5:18)**
- Don't lie to the Spirit (Acts 5:15)**
- Don't grieve Spirit (Eph 4:30-32)**
- Don't put out fire of Spirit (1 Thess 5:19)**



Forever Saved ($t \geq$ death)

- ❖ **Preserved for salvation (1 Peter 1:23)**
- ❖ **We have assurance of salvation (John 10:28)**



Application

- ❖ **Read Romans 8**
- ❖ **Gal 5:16 - Walk by the Spirit**
- ❖ **Memorize Gal 5:22-23 or Rom 8:1-2**
- ❖ **Encourage one another in your walk with God**



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In the world but not of it

❖ We are made new in Christ

- 2 Cor 5:17 new creation**
- Col 3:9-10 laid aside old self and put on new self**

❖ God has set us apart; we are different from unbelievers

- Mark 12:14-17 Serve God; do not seek worldly desires**
- 1 Peter 1:17, 2:11 Live as strangers to the world**
- John 17:14-16 Still in the world, but free from evil**



In the world but not of it (cont.)

❖ Our actions reflect & demonstrate our separation

- **1 Peter 1:14-16** **be holy for [God] is holy**
- **Rom 12:1-2** **your actions prove the will of God**
- **Matt 5:43-48** **love your enemy; be perfect**
- **Matt 6:1-4** **give alms in secret**

❖ Our actions impact our witness

- **1 Peter 2:12** **behave yourself, Gentiles are watching**
- **Matt 5:16** **let your light be seen by men**
- **Titus 2:6-8** **beyond reproach, the enemy can't accuse**



Go and make Disciples

❖ We are commanded to proclaim the gospel

- Matt 28:18-20 Great Commission**
- Matt 5:13-16 show your light before men**
- John 20:21 Jesus sends us**

❖ We need to be properly prepared

- 1 Peter 3:15 be ready to explain your hope**

❖ Many examples of witnessing are given

- Acts 4:23-31 disciples pray for confidence in witness**
- Acts 4:3-34, 5:12-14 church's actions seen by community**
- Acts 8:26-40 Philip witnesses to Ethiopian**
- Acts 13:14-16 Paul speaks in synagogue**
- Acts 16:25-34 Paul and Silas witness to jailer**



Application

- ❖ **Be Holy and Blameless and Beyond Reproach**
- ❖ **Proclaim the Gospel of Christ to all nations**
- ❖ **Memorize Matt 28:18-20**
- ❖ **Memorize John 17:15-16**



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Resurrection

- ❖ **Jesus spoke of it (John 5:28-29)**
- ❖ **Physical event**
- ❖ **Believers**
 - **Jesus raises dead believers at His return (1 Thess 4:16-17)**
 - **There is continuity between mortal and resurrection body**
 - **New bodies are perfect vehicles for expressing our fully regenerate character**
 - **We are made sinless creatures in deathless bodies (1 Cor 15:42)**
 - ◆ **perfect knowledge of grace and God (1 Cor 13:12)**
 - ◆ **perfect deliverance from all sin, evil, weakness**
- ❖ **Non-Believers**
 - **Unbelievers raised for sentencing (John 5:28-29)**
 - **Occurs some time after Res. of Believers (Rev 20:4-6)**



Judgment

- ❖ **A certain event (Matt 25:31-46)**
- ❖ **God judges the world by Christ (Acts 17:30-31)**
- ❖ **Reason why grace is necessary**
- ❖ **Purpose is to disclose, not determine, a person's character and eternal abode (John 3:18)**
- ❖ **Believers**
 - **Christ saves us on the day of God's wrath (John 3:36)**
 - **Believers get reward they seek -- on basis of Christ's atonement**
 - **Professors of Christ will have their words/actions reviewed to support or condemn (Matt 7:21-23) their claims**
- ❖ **Non-Believers punished according to measure of rebellion against God (Luke 12:42-48)**



Hell

- ❖ **Be afraid. Be very afraid.**
- ❖ **Final abode of those consigned to eternal punishment at last judgment (Matt 25:41-46)**
- ❖ **Unhappy place**
 - **Fire, darkness (Matt 25:41)**
 - **Lake of fire & brimstone (Rev 20:10)**
 - **Weeping, gnashing of teeth (Matt 8:12)**
 - **Destruction (2 Thess 1:7-9)**
- ❖ **God's presence in wrath (Rom 2:5-12)**
- ❖ **Unending (Matt 25:46)**
- ❖ **Self chosen by believers**



Heaven

- ❖ **God's home (Ps 33:13-14)**
- ❖ **Believers will be with their Savior (John 17:5, 24)**
- ❖ **Happy Place**
 - **Place of eternal rest (Rev 14:13), glory (2 Cor 4:17), work (Rev 7:15), praise & worship (Rev 7:9-10), newness (2 Peter 3:10, 13)**
 - **We will see the Father & Son (1 John 3:2)**
- ❖ **Different degrees of reward (1 Cor 3:10-15)**
- ❖ **Believers may receive one or more crowns**
 - **Crown of Life (James 1:12)**
 - **Crown of Glory (1 Peter 5:4)**
 - **Crown of Righteousness (2 Tim 4:8)**
 - **Crown of Rejoicing (1 Thess 2:19)**



Application

- ❖ **Serve God**
- ❖ **Tell others about Jesus**
- ❖ **Memorize Matthew 25:41**