

THE “WHO TOLD YOU?” SERIES

A STUDY IN DISCERNING THE VOICES OF OUR DAY

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

Who Told You

That You Are Going To Heaven ? – Part 3

discerning the voices of our day and knowing what to do about what you hear

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Development, Preparation, Maturity, Discipleship

Introduction and overview to the series

Previously We Saw In Part 1

“Who Told You That You Are Going To Heaven”

Matthew 7:22-23

Many will say to Me in that day, “Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?” **23** And then I will declare to them, “I never knew you; depart from Me,

1.) What is the Gospel message?

1a.) The Gospel is God’s word to man

1b.) The Gospel is God’s work in man

1c.) The Gospel is God’s way for man

John 3:17-18

17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **:18** “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

2.) What is the first step towards salvation?

2a.) It is Looking into the mirror

2b.) It is Getting alone with yourself

2c.) It is Deciding to be honest before God

**Which Brings Us Now To Our 3rd Challenge to the Question;
“Who Told You That You Are Going To Heaven?”**

Hebrews 6:1-6

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, **2** of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. **3** And this we will do if God permits. **4** For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, **5** and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, **6** if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

“Who Told You That You Are Going To Heaven”

3.) What is the evidence of true conversion?

Defining the word “Conversion”

n. [L. See Convert.] [.] 1. In a general sense, a turning or change from one state to another; with regard to substances, transmutation; as a conversion of water into ice, or of food into blood. [.] 2. In military affairs, a change of front, ...

Matthew 13:13-15 KJV

Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. **14** And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: **15** For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be **converted**, and I should heal them.

converted

epistrepho, *ep-ee-stref'-o*; to revert, re-turn, be about life again.

Exemplified By Saul of Tarsus, The World's Most Transformative, Effect and Influential “Convert” to Christianity in Human History

3a.) There is an internal and external transformation

If you have been attending these last three weeks, you by now have discovered that the scripture verses that we are using in relationship to our title in this series – are strong passages that demand that the reader stop and consider just what manner of person they really are.

As a church, this church – I believe the hour has come
That we also take a deep and serious look regarding this, most serious issue of
The authorship is to “The Believing Hebrews”

He is speaking to an audience that is clearly Hebrew, meaning that they were once practitioners of Judaism. They like Paul had responded to the message of the Bible – that Jesus Christ was in fact Yeshua HaMashiach

There are five indicators / symptoms of a wayward soul.

Hebrews 6:4-5

v.4 For it is impossible for those who were (1) **once enlightened**, and have (2) **tasted the heavenly gift**, and have (3) **become partakers of the Holy Spirit**, v.5 and have (4) **tasted the good word of God** and (5) **the powers of the age to come**

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|-----------------|---|
| 1.) enlightened | grk: photizo , <i>fo-tid'-zo</i> ; to shed light upon, to brighten up, to be enlightened, illuminate, made to see. |
| 2.) tasted | grk: geuomai , <i>ghyoo'-om-ahee</i> ; to taste; either by sipping or eating. |
| 3.) partakers | grk: metochos , <i>met'-okh-os</i> ; to be a participant, involved, to share. |
| 4.) tasted | grk: geuomai , <i>ghyoo'-om-ahee</i> ; to taste; either by sipping or eating |
| 5.) powers | grk: dunamis , <i>doo'-nam-is</i> ; the force. miraculous power. effect, influence and change that is not of this worlds capabilities. |

No one in the Bible exhibits this warnings of verses 4 through 6

then that of Judas Iscariot. A man who fits the bill. But how do you know that over time you can wind up being just like him. A man who knew about Jesus, a man who saw the power of Jesus, who walked with Jesus, good Tasted of the heavily gifting on the power of the age to come. How do you know that you won't wind up like him

Matthew 13:18-23

"Therefore hear the parable of the sower: **19** (1) When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. **20** But (2) he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy. **21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. **22** Now (3) he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. **23** But (4) he who received seed on the good ground is he who **hears** the word and **understands** it, who indeed **bears fruit** and **produces**: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

Here, Introduced to us is The Doctrine of Abiding.

Question Is:

Who told you that you are going to heaven ?
What evidence is there that that is true in your life ?

Answer Is:

John 10:27-29

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. **28** And I give them eternal life, (its not eternal if you can lose it next week) and they shall never (never, never, never) perish; neither shall anyone (anyone, anyone) snatch them out of My hand. **29** My Father, who has given (given, given) them to Me, is greater than all; and no one (no one, no one, no one) is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.

Question Is:

If I am truly Born Again as Jesus said, Can I become Unborn Again?

Answer Is:

2Timothy 1:12b

For I **know** whom I have believed and am **persuaded** that He is **able to keep** what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Question Is:

Can I lose my salvation?

Answer Is:

Not if you really have it...

Romans 8:38

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, **39** nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A gift given is based upon a relationship, not on obligation

Ephesians 2:5, 8-9

For even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)... **8** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Can you earn God's favor or God's grace?

The Bible says no you cannot because God's grace is unmerited favor, So then grace cannot be humanly achieved or obtained or awarded based upon any human effort whatsoever.

John 15:1-6

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

So Jack, Are you Calvinistic or Armenian in your Doctrinal View of Salvation?
(the answer is for me - I am not)
before I had ever studied or read about these two renown theologians,

I had first read my Bible and I came away with this understanding;
(1) I believe the Bible teaches that I'm to make every effort to stay or walk daily as close to Jesus Christ as is possible.

(2) I believe that I am absolutely secure in Jesus Christ and His completed work at the Cross and that His salvation is a free gift.

(3) I believe that true, factual, actual conversion must result in a personal transformation.

(4) I believe that abiding in Christ, a biblical teaching, is my responsibility because He has saved me - I now want more of Him in my life !

What is the meaning of "Internal" transformation ?

That there is a divine work going on within you that cannot be denied. He has introduced a new way of thinking. Your mind is healed and renewed. There is a soft, persistence, serious, yet delightfully profound newness.

John 16:13-14

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. **14** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

What does the "External" transformation look like ?

This is the change that people around us now see or comment on. This is what others say about you now that you've become a follower of Jesus. The external things are those things that "flow" or "come out" of us from having been with Jesus (in His word).

Romans 8:16

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
Witness grk: summartureo, soom-mar-too-reh'-o; to give joint testimony. to testify together, to corroborate, concurrent), agree on the evidence presented.

1 Peter 2:11-12 NLT

Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that **wage war** against your very souls. **12** Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

Prof. Wayne Grudem

"If we yield to the desires that "wage war" against our souls we will inevitably sense a loss of power, some depression of spiritual strength resulting in having no real spiritual impact in the lives of others, our church or our family."

**As Truly Converted Believers of Christ;
How we live now and what we think now, Is totally different from how we**

used to live and think, And God the Holy Spirit says “I know, Right”
What Is The Evidence of True Conversion?

3b.) There is an increased passion to obey God

Galatians 5:24

And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

1 Peter 1:13 NLT

So (1) **prepare your minds for action** and (2) **exercise self-control**. (3) Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you (4) when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.

the grave danger to those who were once practitioners of Judaism was the temptation to go back into an old system that was no longer in effect. The LORD having provided in Christ all that was written.

Today, our grave danger is either slipping back into legalism or spiritual stagnation.

church – be careful, you never want to become complacent regarding your calling and your salvation.

What Is The Evidence of True Conversion?

3c.) There is an ongoing revival of conviction

I close now, treading upon thin ice. Warning...

there are some great scholars and Bible expositors that teach that if you fall away or backslide away from Jesus Christ – you cannot come back - It's impossible for you re-commit your life.

(I do not believe the Bible teaches that at all)

Hebrews 6:4-6

4 For it is impossible for those who were **once enlightened**, and have **tasted** the heavenly gift, and have become **partakers** of the Holy Spirit, **5** and have **tasted** the good word of God and the **powers** of the age to come, **6 if they fall away**, to **renew** them **again to repentance**, since they crucify **again** for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! 25 All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. 26 So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. 27 I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

Where Are You Running? Who is it or What is it You're Running Toward?

Charlie Peace

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Peace#/media/File:Charlie_Peace_execution.jpg

On the morning of his execution, Peace ate a hearty breakfast of bacon, and calmly awaited the coming of the public executioner, William Marwood, inventor of the "long drop". He was escorted on the death-walk by the prison chaplain, who was reading aloud from *The Consolations of Religion* **about the fires of hell.**

Church Historian and Revivalist Leonard Ravenhill

Recounts that the Clergymen "Visiting Peace for the final two weeks of his life mumbled his through the Scriptures as though he had marbles in his mouth. There was no passion in the presentation of the Gospel and certainly there seemed to be no concern for the condemned man's soul. (*Why Revival Tarries. 1959*)

Peace burst out "*Sir, if I believed what you and the church of God say that you believe, even if England were covered with broken glass from coast to coast, I would walk over it, if need be, on hands and knees and think it worth while living, just to save one soul from an eternal hell like that!*"

The Most Needed Thing Today Is.

Repentance of toward God, Revival of Within, Baptism from Above,
And Life / Power flowing out of you.

Salvation,

"If you've earned it, then you can lose it."

J. Vernon McGee

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ, The Call** <<<<

Come Forward for Prayer

_____ **End of Study** _____

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