



The Teachings of Jesus 3rd Q 2014

Lesson 4: Salvation.

Salvation -- Roots

Latin *salvus* means whole, safe, healthy and uninjured; the alleged Indo-European “root” is *sol* (whole). שלוח SHaLVaH is peace, quiet and ease; its SLV roommate at *Psalms122:7* is שלום SHaLOAM (peace – hear Shin-Lamed-Mem SILENCE at SOLEMN). Her twin sister is שלם SHaLaiM (whole, healthy, uninjured). Shi-Lamed/ SH-L or SL is the two-letter root – see SLAM. The Shin-Lamed/ SL family of loosened tensions is seen at LOOSE.

The Shin-Lamed theme is set by שלה Shin-Lamed-Hey (to be secure – Jeremiah 12:1), שלו SHaLahV (to be at rest – Job 3:26), שלו SHaLaiV (tranquil – Jeremiah של י SHiLeeY 49:31) and is rest, quiet – II Samuel 3:27. For the Shin-Lamed subroot at work, see SHIELD.

Branches

Listed cognates at IE “root” *sol* include CONSOLIDATE, SAFE, SAGE, SALUBRIOUS, SALUTE, SALUTORY, SALVAGE (to save), SALVO, SAVE, SOLEMN and SOLID. See EXULT and SOLEMN for alternative etymons. SALVE is not listed here, but שלו SHeLeV (ease -- Psalms 30:7) is a better etymon for soothing ointment, SALVE, than the invented Indo-European “root” *seip* (fat, butter) which has no convincing cognates.

SALVE is also a verb of soothing and easing.

In Modern Greek “safe” is *asfalis*. This is an M132 metathesis of SHaLVaH. Shin-Lamed-Mem and Shin-Lamed-Vav are often together in the Bible, so El SALVADOR and JERUSALEM are linked to SALVATION. SHaBHaH is to take capture during war (*Deuteronomy21:10*), but a typical built-in opposite is SHaBH (to return home ... to SAFETY). As Abraham does for Lot, returning a captive is to SAVE or to SALVAGE that person. If hoarding or SAVING loot does not evoke a spiritual SAVIOR, SHaBH also means to repent, to return, to restore and to redeem. SAFE might also be influenced by ספן \$aF a N (covered, secured - *Deuteronomy33:21*), a variant of צפון TSaPH OON (hidden, closeted away – Exodus 2:2). In Chinese *pien so* is a closet or privy; read the syllables backwards to find the hidden TSaPHOON. So, SAFE and SAFETY may not be cognates of SALVATION.

In Spanish there is *salvacion* (salvation), *salvador* (savior), *salvar* (rescue) and *salvo* (safe). EDK links SALUTE, (Italian *salute* and Spanish *salud*, health), and SALUTATION to Latin *salvus* – which takes us back to SHaLVaH.

<http://www.edenics.net/english-word-origins.aspx?word=SALVATION>



From the Teacher's Lesson

- How do feelings of guilt and shame prepare us to seek the salvation that God freely offers? [Read *Could It Be This Simple* Chapter 10. – added]
- How do theologies that emphasize freedom from sin's punishment, but not freedom from its power, shortchange their adherents' experiences?

Any thoughts, comments, questions, suggestions, or brilliant glimpses of the obvious??

SABBATH

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life, (John 3:16, NKJV).

This is probably the most referenced text in all of Scripture. What does it mean?? How has Christianity missed the meaning of this verse?? How has it been misinterpreted to mean that God was so bloodthirsty that He demanded the life of His Son, or worse, executed Him, Himself??

We have often heard "Death is just a part of life" as the lesson states. What should we respond to this?

Bottom paragraph of the lesson:

"The Bible is clear. We have only two choices regarding our sins: either we pay for our sins in the lake of fire, or we accept Christ's payment for them on the cross. As we review the generous gift of God's grace through Christ, let us once again humbly renew our faith in Jesus as our personal Savior."

I hope this is an editorial addition.

I don't believe Scripture says, anywhere, that Christ paid anyone for my sins, or anyone else's. As for the lake of fire ... that's a topic for another day [Read Daniel 7, & Rev 15 for starters].

SUNDAY

The first three paragraphs in Sunday's lesson are so eloquent, and on point, I have to wonder if they were written by the same author as the last paragraph in Sabbath's lesson.

"The English verb to love, especially the casual way it is often used today, is totally inadequate to express the depth of solicitous interest expressed by the Greek verb agapao-, "to love." In the New Testament, this term and its related noun agape-, "love," reveal God's deep and constant love toward His creatures, who are completely unworthy of this love. Love is the preeminent attribute of God's character. He not only loves us, but also He is love (1 John 4:8).



God's love is not an impulse based on His feelings or preferences. His love is not selective, nor does it depend on what we do. God loves the world, that is, all human beings, including those who do not love Him.

True love is known by the actions it generates. Sometimes as human beings we may say we love someone, while our actions demonstrate the opposite (1 John 3:17, 18). The same does not occur with God. His love is reflected in His actions. Out of love, He gave His only begotten Son for our salvation. In so doing, God gave us all He had, which is Himself." [emphasis added].

If true love is known by its actions, how in the name of everything holy, could God have demanded His Son's life or taken it Himself?? How could He kill his children by cooking them forever or as "long as they deserve"?

Please do NOT misunderstand me. There will be a "lake of fire", and great distress, wailing and gnashing of teeth. The wicked will suffer in proportion to their illness, and eventually "die" eternally. Since "true love is known by its actions", however, we should be able to reconcile the end time events in harmony with "God is Love". Any ideas or thoughts?

From the bottom section: "If God gave you what you deserved, what would it be, and why?"

What's implied? THAT GOD'S LAW IS IMPOSED!

If you opened the door of your child's room just in time to see them step off of a chair with a rope around their neck in an attempt to hang themselves, what does the child deserve for violating the law of respiration?? What would Love do?

What may be urban legend tells of Jacques Lefevre, a man intent on ending his life. He drove a stake in to the ground on a cliff top, overlooking the sea. He tied one end of a rope to the stake and the other around his neck. Being thorough, Lefevre then drank a bottle of poison, set his clothing on fire, leapt off of the cliff, and attempted to shoot himself in the head on the way down. The bullet missed his head and cut the rope in two, dropping Mr. Lefevre in to the sea, where the salt water extinguished the flames and caused him to vomit up the poison. A passing fisherman picked Lefevre up and delivered him to a nearby hospital, where at last, the weary Frenchman got his wish, and died from hypothermia. Did he deserve death for so many violations of natural law??

While it's true that humanity has nothing inherent to merit God's favor, God loves so much that He offers healing as a gift. Humanity still has to cooperate with the process, because God is Love, and therefore, will not force healing on anyone who doesn't want it.

MONDAY

Since humanity has nothing inherent to remedy its illness, God had to take the initiative, if humanity was going to survive. Consider that God, the Father, was willing to come to Earth, reveal His character of Love, and allow His creation to kill Him, but Christ said the controversy is with me – I



will go and reveal your character, my character, and Satan's character. How difficult for a father to restrain himself and let his son be treated with disdain, physical/emotional torture, and to taste death.

In the 2nd paragraph:

“In spite of the fact that we were sinners and did not love God, He loved us and provided the means for our sins to be forgiven through His Son (1 John 4:10). This wondrous love is what draws us toward Him.”

Were sins not forgiven before Jesus came to Earth??

5 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. 6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”. Ex 34: 5-7

If sins were not forgiven before Christ came, then how did Enoch & Elijah get admitted to Heaven?? Perhaps the healing remedy was unavailable until Jesus produced it in the human mind?

Consider what it reveals about the Godhead that they planned the “salvation” *before* the creation. See Eph. 1:4, 1 Peter 1:20, Rev. 13:8.

TUESDAY

Let's get this out of the way now. Christ's life, death, and resurrection was absolutely required for our restoration back to harmony with the Law of Love/Life.

Why was Christ's death “required”? Because character needed to be revealed. God's, Christ's, Satan's, and human character. God loved so much that He demonstrated he would allow His creation to kill Him. Satan revealed he would kill his Creator in an effort to save himself. Humanity revealed it was following a usurper and needed to be healed. Christ revealed that He was, indeed, God's Son, and that there was NO design flaw in the original human form. **He also secured the remedy to heal humanity and reconcile [not to be confused with “forgive”] humanity back to God, and its original state, in harmony with the design laws.** [This, for those who accuse us of teaching moral influence theory.]

It's important to remember that if at any point along the pathway to “death”, Christ used his divine power to stop the process, Satan would have won the war. He [Christ] had “all power” in Heaven & Earth [John 13:3], but didn't use it for His own benefit. Consider what would have been the results if Satan had “all power” in Heaven & Earth ...

There are many more facets to this that I don't have time to include, and more importantly, that I don't yet understand. We are told this will be our science and our song for eternity.



From the lesson:

“It is important to notice that Jesus died voluntarily. As the Father gave His one and only Son, so the Son gave His own life to redeem the human race. Nobody forced Him to do so. “ ‘No one takes it [my life] from Me, but I lay it down of Myself,’ ” declared Jesus (John 10:18, NKJV).”

First of all, well said.

Consider this: If Christ’s death was voluntary, and it was, then any doctrine stating that God killed His Son or “punished” Him on the cross must be a doctrine of devils.

WEDNESDAY

From the 1st paragraph in the lesson:

“Without Christ, we were slaves of sin, slaves to the evil impulses of our fallen human nature. We lived in a self-centered way, pleasing ourselves instead of living to the glory of God. The unavoidable result of this spiritual slavery was death, because the wages of sin is death.”

Again, well said.

To review: Sin = Lawlessness [1 John 3:4]. God’s Law = Design protocols upon which life is built to operate. Therefore, sin is being out of harmony with the design for life, and sin pays its own wage [death]. Death is not God’s punishment; it is His letting go so we bear the consequences of our choices.

Were Adam & Eve free in the garden? Didn’t Satan question their freedom [see Gen 3:1-3]? Were they free out of the garden? Is the alcoholic free?? The heroin addict? The obese diabetic? The gossip? The proud vegan?

Consider what it will mean to be “free from sin”. Why will Heaven be “free from sin”?

THURSDAY

From the 1st paragraph:

“Because of our sins, we deserve to die. But Christ took our place on the cross and paid the death penalty that, otherwise, rested on us. He, being innocent, took on our guilt and received our punishment so that we, being sinful, could be declared innocent. Through Him, instead of perishing we receive eternal life. John 3:15 makes this amazing promise to us. It says that “ ‘whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life’ ” (NKJV), a promise repeated at the end of John 3:16.”



Enough with this “deserve to die” theme. Certainly sinners are in a terminal condition at birth, and if remedied, they will die eternally, but do they “deserve” death or “choose” death?

Does the smoker deserve lung cancer? Did New Orleans deserve hurricane Katrina? Does the homosexual deserve AIDS, the IV heroin user, hepatitis C? Does Satan [“The Accuser”] use the mantra of “deserving of death” and “unworthiness” to depress or demotivate humanity from seeking a remedy for our sickness?

The lesson does a great job of presenting the concept of eternal life in the present tense. I wish it made it more clear just what “eternal life” is [see John 17:3]. Since a knowledge of the True God is Life Eternal, then a lack of this knowledge must be death and destruction [see Hosea 4:6, Hab. 2:14, 2 Cor. 10:5]