



2016 Q1 Rebellion and Redemption Lesson 10

Paul and the Rebellion

SABBATH

“When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: ‘Death has been swallowed up in victory’ ” (1 Corinthians 15:54, NIV).

Does this text trigger anything in your minds? What do we understand “death” to be? [See John 17:3.] From the Lesson:

“But as anyone who has read Paul knows, the apostle’s emphasis has always been on Christ and His ultimate victory for us. However much Satan succeeded in overcoming God’s covenant people through the centuries, the devil utterly failed against Jesus, and in Jesus all the covenant promises have been fulfilled, thus ensuring salvation for all who claim it in faith and obedience, Jew and Gentile. Christ’s faithfulness also ensures the ultimate demise of Satan (Heb. 2:14) and the end of the great controversy.”

Read this paragraph through the lens of “imposed” law. What does it tell us through this lens?

Now read it through the lens of “natural” law. Does it tell us something else?

SUNDAY

Adam and Jesus

What was Adam & Eve’s primary task after creation? To reveal God’s Character and Government to the on looking universe.

Since they failed, what was needed? To reveal God’s Character and Government to the on looking universe, AND a healing remedy for mankind.

If Adam needed Eve to reveal God’s government, why didn’t Jesus marry?

What does it mean to be “spared from God’s last judgment against sin”? [1st paragraph].

Romans 5: 12-21 from the Remedy

Therefore, the infection of distrust of God, which deformed humanity’s heart and mind with selfishness and fear, and which results only in death, infected the human race when Adam



accepted Satan's lies about God and broke trust with him. This infection of fear and selfishness is inherited by all human beings, so all are born infected.¹³ This is revealed by the fact that before the written law was given, the infection of distrust, fear and selfishness was already present in the world. But this infection of distrust, fear and selfishness is not diagnosable without the law.¹⁴ Nevertheless, even without being diagnosed as infected with this terminal condition, humans still died, all the way from the time of Adam to Moses—even those who did not break a specific command, like Adam did—revealing that the problem is the infected state of our minds and not a legal issue with God. Adam, the first man, being the conduit through which the infection entered humanity, also represents the one man who is the conduit of the antidote that cures all those who accept it.

¹⁵ But the gift of the antidote is not like the infection. For if everyone is born infected with a terminal condition because of the choice of Adam, how incredibly effective must the antidote supplied by Christ be, since it cures all who take it!¹⁶ Again, the gift of the antidote is not like the result of the breach of trust. Adam's breach of trust infected all humanity, therefore all humanity is diagnosed as sick and dying. This occurred without each individual choosing to be infected; but the antidote, which came after humanity had been severely damaged and deformed by selfishness and sin, brought cleansing, purification, health and complete restoration.¹⁷ If, by the choice of one man's distrust, selfishness and death permeated all humanity, how much more will those who accept the Remedy that Christ has achieved experience restored trust and complete healing to live forever with God!

¹⁸ Therefore, just as Adam's distrust infected humanity with the fatal condition of fear and selfishness, so too Christ's choice to sacrifice self achieved the life-giving Remedy for all humanity.¹⁹ Just as Adam's choice infected the human race with a terminal condition, so too Christ's perfect life has brought the Remedy to heal all who accept it.

²⁰ The written law was added so that the infection of distrust and selfishness could be more easily seen and diagnosed. As the exposure of sin and selfishness increased, God's willingness to heal increased all the more,²¹ so that, just as distrust and selfishness brought deformity and death, even more importantly God's gracious Remedy, brought by Jesus Christ, results in complete healing and life eternal.

Does this passage give us any insights in to the Great Controversy? Did you read any other versions/paraphrases?

From the lesson: *“Even the giving of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai could not stop death and the sin problem. The law only clarified what sin is. It was not the answer to sin. The problem of sin and death could only be solved through the sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus paid the debt through the “gracious gift” of His own life (Rom. 5:15, 16, NLT).”*

The law **began** to clarify [i.e. diagnose] what sin is. There's no commandment against molesting a dead horse, so that must not be a sin, right?



The problem of sin and death **could** only be solved through Jesus' **self sacrifice**.
Who did Jesus pay the "debt" to?

MONDAY

The Church "Building"

Earth is the quarry and the work-shop where men are to be fitted and refined for the courts of Heaven. As the stones composing Solomon's temple came together in the wall a perfect fit, without the touch of ax or hammer or any other instrument, so will the resurrected saints, and those who are alive at the time of his coming be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air, each one fitted for the great change and taking his proper place in the **temple of God's love**. 3SP. 41 [emphasis added].

Does this give any new insights to the passage about us being "God's temple" ? [1 Cor. 3: 16, & 1 Cor. 6: 19].

What is the purpose of "The Church"? See Ephesians 3: 1-12.

To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Eph. 3: 8-12.

How is the church "built"?

What is the purpose of the "Spiritual Gifts" ? See 1 Cor. 12 [full chapter]

Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. 1 Cor. 14: 12.

From the lesson:

"We need to notice two things. The first is that the context is speaking about the church and how it is built up. It is not talking primarily about health. God does not destroy people who abuse their bodies with bad lifestyle choices; they destroy themselves. (Later, Paul does talk about our bodies being the temple of the Holy Spirit in connection with our moral choices in 1 Corinthians 6:15-20.)"



The second thing is that each time the word you is mentioned in these two verses, it is plural in the Greek. An individual is not being addressed, but a group. So, if anyone does anything to destroy the church, he or she is in serious trouble. God warns that He will destroy the person who tries to destroy the church.” [Emphasis added].

Where does “God warn He will destroy the person who tries to destroy the church”? I searched “destroy the church” in Scripture [12 translations] and in EGW writings – only one version of Scripture [New Life Version] and 16 EGW references contain the phrase. See below.

“Yes, I know that when I am gone, hungry wolves will come in among you. They will try to destroy the church. Also men from your own group will begin to teach things that are not true. They will get men to follow them. I say again, keep watching! Remember that for three years I taught everyone of you night and day, even with tears.

“And now, my brothers, I give you over to God and to the word of His love. It is able to make you strong and to give you what you are to have, along with all those who are set apart for God. Acts 20: 29-32.

In vain were Satan's efforts to destroy the church of Christ by violence. The great controversy in which the disciples of Jesus yielded up their lives did not cease when these faithful standard-bearers fell at their post. By defeat they conquered. God's workmen were slain, but His work went steadily forward. The gospel continued to spread and the number of its adherents to increase. It penetrated into regions that were inaccessible even to the eagles of Rome. Said a Christian, expostulating with the heathen rulers who were urging forward the persecution: You may “kill us, torture us, condemn us.... Your injustice is the proof that we are innocent Nor does your cruelty ... avail you.” It was but a stronger invitation to bring others to their persuasion. “The oftener we are mown down by you, the more in number we grow; the blood of Christians is seed.” GC 41.

Note: This quote was repeated in 6/16 references, and the others were references to Paul’s efforts to destroy the early church, and other men’s efforts to destroy the modern church.]

I didn’t find any reference saying God would destroy those who try to destroy the church. In fact, Paul states he gives his readers “...over to God and to the word of His love.”

Is there something that happens “naturally” to the one who, in confederacy with Satan, attempts to “destroy the church”?

TUESDAY

The Church as a Body

Why do you think the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to compare the church with the human body? Why not some branch of human government or legal process?



If God had a perfect design for the human anatomy & physiology, doesn't it stand to reason that he has a perfect design for the anatomy & physiology of His church, as well? Even with diseased members.

WEDNESDAY

The Armor of God

Is there a danger in taking the “warfare” metaphor literally? [reference the Dark Ages, or current branches of Islam, Judaism, & Christianity, etc.] What kind of war are we fighting? [see 2 Cor. 10: 4, 5]

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ

Let's examine the armor [Eph. 6: 10-17]:

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

Note that Paul, first, tells us what the warfare is, and why the armor is important [vs 10-13], and then explains what that armor is.

Belt = Truth [Truth eradicates the lies that are part of our DNA].

Breastplate = Righteousness [heart transformation yields Righteousness – Christ weaves His character in to ours, i.e. “covered with the robe of righteousness”]. Doing that which is Right, because it's right.

Shoes = Gospel of Peace [True conversion cannot happen without our wanting to share our experience. Note it's a gospel of “Peace” NOT the “wrath of the Lamb”.]

Shield = Faith [syn. Trust based on EVIDENCE. Not a blind faith.]

Helmet = Salvation [conscious understanding & cooperation with God's methods, principles, &



government yields healing or Salvation]. Level 7 – Friend of God.

Sword of the Spirit = Word of God [see Heb. 4: 12] This is not a “God said it, I believe it, that settles it” use of the Word of God, nor is it an actual weapon to beat others over the head with. Again, it’s a “Friend of God” approach, where we understand God’s Word is LIFE itself, because He designed it to function in harmony with His Character of Love.

THURSDAY

The Last Enemy

Death had already been defeated [2 Tim 1: 10], so why does Paul tell the Corinthians that death is the last enemy? [1 Cor. 15: 26] Which death is Paul talking about in 2 Timothy? Is it a different death than in his letter to the Corinthians? Consider that the “sleep” we know as “death” is an untold blessing to humanity.

The coming of the Lord has been in all ages the hope of His true followers. The Saviour’s parting promise upon Olivet, that He would come again, lighted up the future for His disciples, filling their hearts with joy and hope that sorrow could not quench nor trials dim. Amid suffering and persecution, the “appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” was the “blessed hope.” When the Thessalonian Christians were filled with grief as they buried their loved ones, who had hoped to live to witness the coming of the Lord, Paul, their teacher, pointed them to the resurrection, to take place at the Saviour’s advent. Then the dead in Christ should rise, and together with the living be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. “And so,” he said, “shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 GC. 302.