

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

Lesson 7

Transformation Of the Local Church

Acts 2 is a fulfillment of Matthew 16:18-19

Matthew 16:18–19 also say to you that you are Peter, and **upon this rock** I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”

Peter’s Sermon

Acts 2:22-23 ²²“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— ²³this *Man*, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, **you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.**

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 42 And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

_____ Christ >>> _____ believers

True saving faith brings about _____.

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True _____



Hated Christ >>> Devoted believers

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

Adversative Conjunction



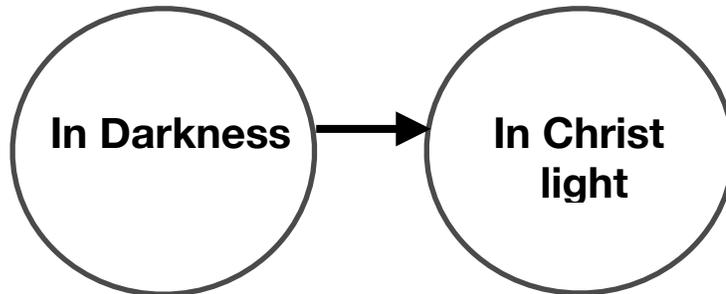
Continuous sin _____ “washed” “sanctified” “justified”

Listen to what Paul told the Corinthians

Colossians 1:13 For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

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Sphere of _____



Romans 6:17–18 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if **(since)** any man is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

“new” [kainos]

The Apostle Paul underwent a dramatic change.

Acts 9:1-6 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

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3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It *is* hard for you to kick against the goads." 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord *said* to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. 20 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

Paul's new life brought a change in desires.

Philippians 3:7-10 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith, 10 that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

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Salvation will bring _____.

A. Our relationship to the _____ will change.

The world won't see us the same way.

John 15:18-19 ¹⁸“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. ¹⁹“**If you were of the world, the world would love its own;** but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

B. Salvation may sever existing _____.

Matthew 10:34-38 “Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ “For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;³⁶ and a man's enemies will be the members of his household. ³⁷ “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

Why does this happen?

Genesis 3:15 ¹⁵And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall

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bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

Salvation will also bring _____.

**A. True believers will experience a new _____
and attraction to the things of God.**

Acts 2:41–42 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. 42 **They were continually devoting themselves to** the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

“**devoting**” [prosk-ar-tereo] to have a steadfast and unwavering commitment

B. Believers will experience a new capacity and inclination to _____.

Romans 6:17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed

C. Salvation produces a new love for _____.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 ¹⁰and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

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D. Salvation will bring a life of perseverance and

Matthew 13:20-23 ²⁰“The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet he has no *firm* root in himself, but is *only* temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.

²²“And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

²³“And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.”

Why do some stop following the Lord?

1 John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us.

Believers hear and follow Christ till the end

John 10:27-28 ²⁷“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

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Philippians 1:6 *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

E. Salvation breaks the consistent pattern of SIN.

1 John 3:7-10 ⁷Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; ⁸the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. ¹⁰By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

ANSWERS: Hated, Devoted, Change, Saving faith, But, control, subtraction, world, relationships, Addition, devotion, obey, God's Word, fruitfulness, sin