



mercy and grace (things that we do not deserve) by sending Jesus to die as an atonement for our sins (John 3:16). He then rose again as a warning and a promise to us that one day, we too will rise and stand before this one who conquered death (Heb. 6-11).

We MUST understand that God owes us nothing for being “good little Christians.” We must never think that that He OWES us salvation. If that’s how we have viewed salvation, we must stop thinking like that. We need to be “servant-oriented,” like Jesus Himself was, without thinking of the just punishment or the merciful gift. We just need to do what He says, serve Him with all of our heart and soul and mind, because He said to do it. Please do not misunderstand me. The fear of hell is a most powerful motivator and the hope of heaven is a most powerful goal. However, that is not why we are here. That is not the purpose of our eternal nature. The purpose of our eternal nature is to worship God. So, let us all worship God and only obey Him. Let us be humble and be holy. Finally, let us all glorify God in everything that we do (Colossians 3:17) even though we are “unprofitable servants.”



Faithful Sayings Issue 11.2 January 11, 2009

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

11.2

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

JANUARY 11
2009



Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Curtis Carwile

Grace and the Unprofitable Servants

By Curtis Carwile



uke 17:5-10 reads:

...The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.” So the Lord said, “If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and sit down to eat?’ But will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink?’ Does

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he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.'"

Everything was created to show God's glory. From the smallest subatomic particle to the whole of the cosmos, it was all designed to shout the awesome power of God (Luke 19:40). Human beings are the epitome of the whole of Creation, and the best equipped and most expected to glorify God. It's funny though that Man is the only thing in the Universe that has the choice of whether or not to glorify God. When we choose to glorify God, it is called worship. Oddly enough, worshipping God is exactly what we are called to do (Psalm 99).

I've worked with a lot of emotionally disturbed children (over 200 in a three-year span) that were just plain rude and disrespectful because they had an undue feeling of entitlement. They wanted certain things and threw fits if they didn't get them because of this entitlement mentality. This mentality is wrong (and more than a little annoying). Those children didn't DESERVE anything outside of the basic respect and basic needs that we all deserve. I think that today, the religious world has fallen into this same mentality of entitlement. They think that so much of what God blesses us with (i.e. a land of freedom, our physical bless-

ings, and especially salvation) is deserved. They have the feeling that they are entitled to God's blessings and nothing could be farther from the truth.

We are not entitled to anything. God created us to glorify Him and to worship Him. When we don't do that, we are guilty of sin. As a result of that, we do deserve something: eternal punishment. Glorifying God and wor-

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- **Hear** the word of God (Romans 10:14-17; 1:16,17; John 17:17; Acts 11:14).
- **Believe** in Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Acts 16:30,31; Romans 10:9,10; Ephesians 2:8,9; I John 5:1; Galatians 3:26).
- **Repent** of past sins and turn to God (Luke 13:5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 26:20; II Timothy 2:19).
- **Confess** Jesus before men (Matthew 10:32,33; Rom. 10:9,10; I John 4:15; Heb. 10:23).
- **Be Baptized** for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:1-6; Galatians 3:26,27; I Peter 3:21).
- **Abide** in the word of God (John 8:31; 15:6,7; I Corinthians 15:1,2; Revelation 2:10; I John 1:9,10; Hebrews 10:24,25; John 4:24).

shipping Him is what we were created to do. When we do that, we are just doing what we are told to do. There should be no reward for that. The main reward of following law is that we avoid punishment by doing so.

With that said, God does something for us. He shows us mercy and He extends His Grace to all men (Titus 2:11). Because all of us are sinners and worthy of eternal punishment (Romans 6:23), God showed His great