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Four Spiritual Laws

Rom 3:19-31 pg 1193

INTRO. Just as there are physical laws that govern the universe, so there are spiritual laws which govern your relationships with God.

The Law serves as a standard of righteousness. Measured against it, every person falls short and thus subject to punishment.

Its not that we will be judged by God. We already have been, and we were found guilty.

God's Law is not intended to save, but to make us aware of our sins.

Since all have sinned, all need to be justified by a grace gift given those who have faith in Jesus.

Jesus was the favourable sacrifice, the basis on which God can be righteous in forgiving our sins.

I. LAW ONE - God loves you, and has a wonderful plan for your life.

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT GOD LOVES US?

A.) God's ~~plan~~ love

1.) Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

B.) God's Plan

1.) Jn 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

a.) a more full and meaningful life.

c.) why is it that most people are not experancing this abundant life?

1.) Because of Law two.

II.) LAW TWO - Man is sinful and seperated from God, thus he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.

A.) Man is continually trying to reach God and the abundant life through his own efforts.

B.) Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

a.) Sin is an attitude of indifference to God, and is characterized by an attitude of active or passive rebellion.

C.) Man is seperated

PAUL SAYS 1.) Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

a.) Man was created to have fellowship with God, but because of his own stubborn selfwill, man chose to go his own way, and the fellowship with God was broken.

EXAMPLES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

b.) Life is made up of daily choices, but there are also basic life-shaping choices each of us makes. Paul asks us to consider and make one of those choices now.

D.) The third law gives us the only answer to this dilemma.

III. LAW THREE - Jesus is God's only provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know God's love and plan for your life.

A.) Christ died for ~~us~~ us

1.) Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

a.) Christ's willingness to die for us when we were sinners is unmistakable proof of Gods love.

B.) Christ is the door

1.) Jn 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

GOD
↑
CHRIST ← MAN

2.) II Cor 5:21 For He (God) hath made Him (Jesus) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

a.) Christ's sacrifice was not in vain, and God's work will not fail.

c.) It is not enough to know these three laws or even to believe them, because of Law four.

IV. LAW FOUR - We must recieve Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord by personal invitation. MT 11:28-30 pg 1025 COME UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOUR

A.) How to recieve Christ

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN OF WATER + OF THE SPIRIT →

1.) Jn 3:1-8 pg 1121

a.) Ye must be born again.

b.) As natural birth begins our life, so spiritual birth brings us into the spiritual world and makes us God's "born ones".

2.) Jn 1:12-13 pg 1119

a.) If you do not see a gift held out to you, or if you see it but do not accept it as real, you won't stretch out your ~~hand~~ hand to take it.

b.) Believing in Jesus involves seeing Him presented as God's Son, accepting that description as real, and simply stretching out your hand to accept God's gift of eternal life.

c.) You then become what you were not before, a child of God.

B.) We have a personal invitation from Christ

1.) Rev 3:20-22 pg 1308

a.) Jesus is eager to enter and fill our lives. He knocks at the door of our hearts. It's up to us to open up our lives and let Him in, not to save, but to fill and control it.

c.) Recieving Christ involves commitment of the total person - your intellect, emotions, and selfwill.

ii.) The change which follows the initial act may be sudden or gradual, according to each of one's personality.

D.) Is there any reason why you would not like to have Christ in your life now?

V. CLOSE

A.) How do we know that Christ is in our life?

1.) Did you ask Him in?

2.) Were you sincer when you asked?

3.) Where is He now?

4.) Christ said that He would come into your life. would He mislead you?

5.) Then where is He?

6.) On what authority do you know?

a.) The trustworthiness of God and His word-

1.) I Jn 5:10-13 pg 1299

a) When a person believes the external witness to Jesus, God gives us a witness" in his heart." Faith serves as its own witness.

In believing we somehow know the story of Jesus is true, and one certainty is confirmed by what God then does in our lives.

B.) How do we become a dynamic Christian?

1.) We must grow.

a) "G" - Go to God in prayer daily.

1.) Jn 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

a) Pray in your own words, God knows your heart and is not concerned with your words, but rather with the attitude of your heart.

b.) "R" - Read God's word daily.

1.) Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they recieved the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

a.) We can also be "more noble" when we too can set aside personal considerations in order to discern, and do, God's will.

c.) "O" - Obey God.

1.) Jn 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

a.) We show our love for God by willingly serving Him; not just because we have to, but because we want to.

d.) "W" - witness for Christ daily by your life and words.

1.) MT 4:19 and he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

a.) What makes a disciple is their willingness to follow Jesus. By following Him will produce persons who share Christ's concern for bringing others to God.

2.) Jn 15:8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

e.) "T" - Trust God in every facit of your life.

1.) I Pet 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

a.) Putting our faith and trust in to Christ - letting Him carry our burdens.

f.) "H" - allow the Holy Spirit to control everything in our life.

1.) Gal 5:16-17 pg 1238

a.) The Holy Spirit is like an engine, producing the energy needed to force sin away.

KEEP ADDING FUEL - DON'T RUN OUT