

Part 5 – June 22, 2010

“Gospel Basics” (pt. 5)

Remembering the past

- We began our study of the Gospel by emphasizing its Origin [**from** God], its Subject [**about** God], and its Benefactor [**for** God].
- We learned that the word “Gospel” means _____ that God has sent His _____ to rescue us from God’s _____ so we could become His beloved _____ [1 John 3:1].
- We learned that the work of God’s Spirit in us to convince us of our need to be saved is called _____.

Conversion

This evening as we discuss our response to the Spirit’s work of regeneration [being born again-John 3:3], let’s review:

- God’s purpose in the Spirit’s work of **regeneration** is the creation of a NEW heart in us so that we CAN and WILL freely and joyfully receive Christ as our Savior [conversion].

“I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and [I will] give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and [I will] cause you to walk in My statutes and be careful to obey My rules” (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

- NOTICE the six I will's.

Who is doing the work of regeneration? _____

Who is the recipient of this work of regeneration? _____

What is the result? "to _____ in My statutes and be careful to _____
My rules [God's Word]."

- *SUMMARY*: God sends His Spirit to change our hard hearts of stone to hearts of flesh.

- Stoney hearts CANNOT and WILL NOT believe the Gospel. WHY?

2 Cor. 4:4

2 Tim. 2:26

Heb. 2:15

- Our hearts must be CHANGED so that we will and can believe the Gospel.

- This "part" of the "process" of salvation is call **conversion**:

page **98** ...we must respond...

- We are saved as the Spirit of God applies the **Gospel** that we have heard to our hearts **so that** we can and will respond *acceptingly* [my word]. **BOTH MUST HAPPEN FOR THE WORK OF SALVATION TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.**

- **Conversion** is **OUR** response to our God's work of regeneration and includes two aspects: repentance and faith.

Look at the top of page **99** - chart and paragraph:

Repentance:: **turning from**>>a change of mind about sin so as to turn from [repudiate] sin.

The work of the Spirit in us causes us to "see" our sin as God sees it::evil, rebellion, rejection, lawlessness against His rule and majesty.

This decision to repent is a work of God's grace in our hearts:

"...that God may grant them repentance..." (2 Tim. 2:25)

Faith:: **turning to**>>having repented of our sin, we simultaneously turn to Jesus as the Only One Who can and will forgive and accept us as His own.

This decision to turn to Jesus is a work of God's grace in our hearts:

*"...faith comes hearing and hearing from the Word of God [the **Gospel**]"
(Romans 10:17)*

How can we know if we are genuinely saved?

*"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you **may know** that you have eternal life" (1 John 5:13)*

Let's turn to page **102** ff.

Am I following Jesus NOW?

*Next week we will continue with this as we get into chapter 's **seven** and **eight**.*

- God's work of saving us by the death and resurrection of His Son [the heart of the **Gospel**], is the best "good news" we will ever hear and experience.

Let's read **Eph. 2:8-9** and turn to page **105-106** in our book.