

NOT EVERYTHING YOU HEAR IS SCRIPTURAL

Lesson Three

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. This is the third lesson on this subject.
2. By the word "unscriptural" I mean that there is no scriptural authority for them.

I. MANY SAY, "MIRACLES ARE STILL BEING WORKED TODAY"

1. I do not believe that the Bible teaches that miracles are being worked today.
2. I am NOT saying that I disbelieve the miracles of the Bible.
3. I believe that Jesus, the Apostles, and other inspired men worked miracles.
4. These miracles served a PURPOSE, and when that PURPOSE was accomplished the miracles were done away with.
 - (1) Jesus Christ performed miracles to establish the fact that He was the Son of God -- John 3:2; John 5:36; Matt. 11: 2 - 5; John 20: 30 - 31.
 - (2) The Apostles and Prophets CONFIRMED the Word with Miracles -- Heb. 2 :3 - 4; Mk. 16: 17 - 20.
 - (3) Miracles CEASED "*when that which is perfect is come*" -- I Cor. 13: 8 - 10.
5. There is NO NEED for miracles today -- the inspired scriptures are COMPLETE and CONFIRMED, and they furnish us "*unto all good works*" -- 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:3; Jude 3.

II. WE HEAR THAT AN ALIEN SINNER IS SAVED BY PRAYER.

1. Many people believe an alien sinner is saved by prayer.
2. A doctrine NOT TRUE just because most people believe it.
3. It is only true IF THE BIBLE TEACHES IT.
4. Jesus taught in His day that the masses believed many things which were contrary to the scriptures -- Matt. 15: 1 - 9; 16: 6, 12.
5. Today we must NOT be surprised that the majority of people BELIEVE ERROR that is taught by the majority of religious teachers.
6. We must examine ALL teachings with an open Bible, and do not make up your mind until all the evidence is in -- I Thess. 5:21
7. In this lesson we do not hesitate to DENY that an alien sinner is saved by prayer.
8. There is NOT ONE EXAMPLE in the New Testament of an inspired man, or an apostle, telling an alien sinner to pray for salvation!
9. Paul said in Romans 1:16 that THE GOSPEL "*IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION*".
 - (1) The Corinthians were saved by the gospel -- I Cor. 15: 1,2
 - (2) Jesus said we are saved by the gospel -- Mk. 16:15 - 16
 - (3) The gospel is to be obeyed -- 2 Thess. 1:8; Rom. 6:17
 - (4) What is involved in obedience to the gospel?
 1. One must HEAR the gospel -- Mk. 16:15
 2. One must BELIEVE the gospel -- Mk. 16:16; Rom. 1:16
 3. One must REPENT of his sins -- Acts 2:38
 4. One must CONFESS CHRIST before men -- Acts 8:37

5. One must BE BAPTIZED for the remission of his sins -- Acts 2:38
10. God DOES NOT SET ASIDE HIS LAW to answer the prayers of any sinner -- Luke 6:46; Matt. 7: 21 -23; Prov. 28:9
11. Let us study the question: "For what can the alien sinner pray?"
 - (1) Should he pray for the grace of God?
 1. No -- for God's grace has ALREADY APPEARED to all men -- Tit. 2:11.
 2. The sinner needs to exercise his faith to have access into God's grace -- Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:8.
 - (2) Should he pray for God to love him?
 1. No -- GOD ALREADY LOVES HIM-- John 3:16.
 2. The sinner needs to show his love for God by obeying Him -- John 14:15.
 - (3) Should the alien sinner pray for God to be willing to save him?
 1. No -- for God "*is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*"-- 2 Pet. 3:9.
 2. Denominational preachers have the alien sinner begging God to be willing to save them, when God said He was willing in the first century in the New Testament.
 - (4) Should the alien sinner pray for God to be reconciled to Him?
 1. No -- God and Christ are already willing to receive sinners.
 2. The sinner is the one to be reconciled to God -- Rom. 5:10; 2 Cor. 5: 18 - 20.
 - (5) Must the alien sinner pray for "light"?
 1. No -- for the gospel give the light the sinner needs -- 2 Cor. 4:4; Psa. 119: 105, 130

CONCLUSION

1. In view of the things we have studied, I think you can see that the alien sinner is NOT saved by prayer.
2. The thing the alien sinner needs to do is: OBEY THE GOSPEL!