

GETTING TO KNOW JESUS: HIS PERSON & WORK

18 May 2022 | Week 4: Perseverance & Glorification

I. Review

1) **Atonement & Union with Christ**

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Cor. 5:21

2) **Order of Application**

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. - Romans 8:29-30

Effectual Calling → Regeneration → Faith & Repentance →
Justification → Adoption → Sanctification → Perseverance →
Glorification

II. Perseverance

1. What is perseverance?

"The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God's power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have truly been born again" - Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology (788)

"those who have been united to Christ by the effectual call of the Father and indwelt by the Holy Spirit will persevere to the end"
- Michael Milton, *What is Perseverance of the Saints?*

John 6:39

*"And this is the will of him who sent me, **that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.**"*

John 10:27-29

*"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and **no one will snatch them out of my hand.** ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, **and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand...***

Isaiah 46:10

for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me,
¹⁰ declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
and I will accomplish all my purpose,'

Hebrews 12:1-3

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² **looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith**, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

I Peter 1:3-5

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has **caused us to be born again** to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ **to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you**, ⁵ **who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.***

Ephesians 1:11-14

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, **when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit**, ¹⁴ **who is the guarantee of our inheritance until** we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Philippians 1:6

*⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you **will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.***

2. Common misunderstanding about perseverance

"Perseverance does not mean that everyone who professes faith in Christ and who is accepted as a believer in the fellowship of the saints is secure for eternity and may entertain the assurance of salvation"

- John Murray, Redemption, Accomplished, & Applied

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. -

I John 3:7-9

Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

3. How do we make sense of those who profess faith and not continue in it?

Mark 4:14-20

¹⁴The sower sows the word. ¹⁵And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. ¹⁶And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, ¹⁹but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²⁰But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."

I John 2:18-19

Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore, we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

Galatians 4:19

my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!

4. **Can I know today whether I will persevere to the end?**

- God's Word tells us we can have assurance

I John 5:13

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.

John 3:36

³⁶Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

I Corinthians 1:6-9

even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹**God is faithful**, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- The indwelling Holy Spirit will produce evidence of a regenerate heart

John 15:5,8

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing....

⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

John 13:35

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Matthew 7:15-20

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

5. Persevere Day-by-Day

Jude 21-22, 24-25

Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt...²⁴ **Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,** ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast

I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast

He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast

Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

Yet Not I, But Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer,
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness,
and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and
boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing,
"All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall
overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated,
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I
am free", Yet not I, but through Christ in
me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me
home And day by day I know He will
renew me

Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips
shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

III. Glorification

Glorification: The final phase of the application of redemption where the saints share in God’s glory when they are in their resurrected bodies dwelling in the new heavens and new earth forever

I Thess. 4:16-17

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And **the dead in Christ will rise first.** ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

I Cor. 15:50-55

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this **mortal body must put on immortality.** ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

Romans 8:19-23

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, **the redemption of our bodies.**

2 Peter 3:11-13

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for **new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.**

IV. Questions & Conclusion