

SUBJECT: THIS IS THE RECORD

SCRIPTURE: I JOHN 5:11-12

A sermon outline presented by Doyce H. Nolan

Text:

"This is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

Introduction

In watching "The People's Court" on television it is not uncommon for the judge to decide on the case based upon the credibility of the witnesses. When we come to Scripture we do not entertain any doubt of its credibility in Divine authority and the way of salvation or any other information contained therein. We do not become the judge to settle the Divine authority and truthfulness of Scripture as it points to Christ as the only Savior of the world. The truth before us cannot be impeached! Please consider...

I. GOD'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING HIS SON AND SALVATION THROUGH HIM.

This record shares two points:

1. That "God Has Given To Us Eternal Life."
 - a. From the fall of Adam and Eve, man has lost all right to life. In him we died, and through him condemnation has come upon everyone of us.
 - b. God willed that we should not perish, therefore sent His Son to deliver us from our condemnation through His shed blood on Calvary.
 - c. Our salvation cannot be earned or merited, it is a free gift to be received.
2. That "This Life Is In His Son." This life includes all the blessings of grace and glory in Christ as
 - a. The Proprietor,
 - b. The Dispenser, and
 - c. The Guardian of it.

Adam, though perfect and in Paradise, was robbed of it through the devices of Satan. If this new life was committed to us, we would not be able to sustain it five minutes. That is why God has committed our new life to His dear Son. In Him we shall never be robbed of eternal life.

So, God has testified that eternal life is to be sought as a free gift from Him, and to be only in and through Him, and for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But to see the full importance of this record we must consider

II. THE DECLARATION CONCERNING HIS SON.

1. What Is Meant By "Having The Son Of God."

- a. Christ is presented as God's gift to man. We must receive Christ as Lord and Savior because He is God's gift to us.
 - b. We then may attest to the fact that we have Christ when we receive Him and make use of Him in our daily walk. This is the source and substance of spiritual life.
2. What Depends Upon Our Having The Son of God?
- a. Everlasting happiness or everlasting misery depends upon this point. (saved verses unsaved)
 - b. Christ not only provided but claims eternal life for us based upon God's Word. He nor we shall ever be disappointed of this free gift of God through His Son.
 - c. The act of living by faith in the Son of God is an open and public demonstration that Christ is alive and lives in us.
 - d. Not to receive the Son of God as Lord and Savior is to remain "dead in trespasses and sin. No title to life, under the condemnation and wrath of Almighty God.
 - e. One can have riches, honor, morality, socially accepted in every way and perish for ever.

Conclusion

How plain is the way of salvation. If there is any difficulty it comes from the pride within one's heart. Someone said, "Salvation is so plain and simple that some folk are offended at it because it is painless and simple."

My unsaved friend, for you to reject salvation is to place yourself in a frightful, dangerous position. I do not refer to the fact that you will spend an eternity in Hell. Oh No! I refer to the fact that you place yourself in a position of being wiser than God, knowing more than God, and being stronger than God!

Why not stop weaving your spider web of the wisdom of man and build your future on the promises of God. Accept His free gift of salvation here and now with gratitude.