

Faith or Works? Or Both?

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From our First seminar, we learned HOW the Israelites happened to be in Egypt. But now we must ask, WHY was a “nation of Israel” necessary at all? There were plenty of people on the earth at that time, so why did there have to be a special “nation” of Israel?

Almost no one on the earth at that time worshiped God. They all worshiped pagan gods. God needed the nation of “Israel” – a word that means “One with God” - through which Christ, the Messiah would come, a nation that would be educated by God’s prophets to be able to recognize the Messiah when He DID come – a nation that failed miserably at that task. They did NOT recognize Christ as the Messiah and they KILLED Him, as a common criminal, in the most grotesque way – crucified on a Cross (pole).

The extended family of Jacob (whose NAME had been changed to *Israel* when Jacob learned to stop deceiving others), that numbered 70 people when they first came down into Egypt, was now, after 430 years, well over a Million people (600,000 men, plus women and children).

God hardened Pharaoh’s heart

When God first called Moses to be the one to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, he told Moses that Moses would have to approach Pharaoh repeatedly to ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites go, but God would repeatedly “harden Pharaoh’s heart” so he would not let them go.

That seems counterproductive. **Why would God do that?**

Answer: **(Lesson No. 5)** First, God was willing to give Pharaoh many chances to do what God wanted him to do. But more importantly, the plagues would escalate until it would be obvious to Pharaoh, and ALL the Egyptians, that God is the Lord who runs the world and everything in it.

“Then they will know that I am the Lord.” Exodus 7:5

The first miracle done by Aaron (his rod turning into a serpent), and the first and second plagues (water turned to blood, and frogs), could be reproduced by Pharaoh's satanic magicians.

The next 6 plagues might possibly be "explained away" as an act of nature:

Third plague: Lice

Fourth plague: Flies

Fifth plague: diseases in their herds of animals

Sixth plague: boils on man and beast (including on Pharaoh's satanic magicians)

Seventh plague: the worst hail storm ever in Egypt (hail mixed with "fire" = probably lightning) that destroyed all the crops

Eighth plague: Locusts – that destroyed any crops that remained

The Ninth plague was Darkness over ALL of Egypt, except the land of Goshen where the Israelites lived. That was harder to explain as an "act of nature."

But the Tenth plague, the death of all the first-born of the families in Egypt (and sparing ALL the Israelite first-born) and the death of the first-born of their flocks - - - could not be engineered by "man." It would be obvious that God was in charge.

Of course, the Egyptians could have spared their first-born if they had known the Lord, and put the blood of a lamb on the door post, as the Israelites had done.

So Pharaoh's rebellion increased. But the plagues also increased in severity to the point that Pharaoh would understand from the consequences – the loss of his first-born child – that there IS a God, and He controls the world.!

We will remember, that when Moses first went to Pharaoh to ask him to let the Israelites go, Moses said:

"Thus saith the Lord God of Israel. Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto Me in the wilderness." Exodus 5:1

And Pharaoh arrogantly answered:

"Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go." Ex 5:2

In fact, Pharaoh's response was similarly rebellious against the Lord after the first NINE plagues.

But after the Tenth plague, and the loss of his first-born son, Pharaoh finally KNEW who was in charge of Egypt - - - and the world. And God said about Pharaoh, his magicians, and the Egyptians:

“THEN, they will KNOW that I am the Lord.” Ex 7:5

This is a lesson almost everyone must learn in this era: it is GOD – and not government, or the medical industry, or even the Illuminati/New World Order – who runs the world, and everything in it. “ALL is of God. . .” Romans 11:36

Do we Really have “Freewill”?

(Lesson NO. 6) If God has given human beings “Freewill” – as all the churches teach – then how could God “harden Pharaoh’s heart” as God said He did, many, many times (Ex 4:21; 7:3,4:7:13-14;10:1,20,27).

On many Christian websites, they write how “Theologians have been grappling with these questions for hundreds of years.”

But there is no need to “grapple.” The answer is quite simple: God has NOT given human beings “Freewill” regardless of the FALSE doctrine taught by EVERY denomination.

The Bible says:

“God is operating ALL according to the counsel of HIS OWN WILL” (not Ours).
Ephesians 1:11

“I am the Potter, you are the clay.” Isaiah 64:8 How much “freewill” does clay have?

“I am the Lord and there is none but Me.” Isaiah 45:5

And many other texts.

If God had given everyone “Freewill” then He would have lost total control of everyone on earth and would be unable to answer a single prayer.

If God had given us “Freewill” – NO ONE would be saved, because the Bible says:

“There are NONE righteous.” Romans 3:10

“There are NONE that seek after God.” Romans 3:11

Who is REALLY in Control?

We don't control our heartbeat. God does.

We don't control our breathing. God does.

We don't control our digestion or the destination in our body of the nutrients we eat. God does.

We don't control when or where we were born. God did.

We don't control who are parents are. God did.

We don't know what is going to happen in a year, in a month, or in an hour. God does.

WHY would ANY Christian WANT to have "Freewill"? Why wouldn't every Christian want Jesus Christ to run his life.

Pharaoh "hardened HIS OWN heart."

As we learned (above), the Bible says repeatedly, "God hardened Pharaoh's heart."

But, in Exodus 8:32, it says, "Pharaoh hardened his OWN heart." So which is it?

(Lesson No. 7) BOTH are actually true!! When God says "He did it" – WE are actually the ones doing it to ourselves.

We must realize that God is in charge of everything. (ALL is of God. . ." Romans 11:36) It is a little easier to understand it if we think of God as the "scriptwriter" for what happens on earth, and WE are the actors "in the play" (even though we think we are in charge of our own actions).

In Rev 17:17, the Bible says:

"For God hath put in their hearts (the hearts of the Ten kings of the Ten Kingdoms) to fulfil HIS (God's) will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled."

God "fulfills HIS WILL" by putting in the hearts of the Ten Kings the decision to give their kingdoms to God's ENEMY – the Beast power!

We must understand that God's plan ultimately will reveal ALL Evil, but His "Plan" must be played out in full so ALL can see how EVIL - - EVIL can get, just as God hardened Pharaoh's heart time after time, until the stakes got so high that Pharaoh finally understood that God is in charge of everything!

For the Tenth Plague: The Lord put a "difference between the Egyptians (pagans) and Israel (worshippers of the true God)."

(Lesson No. 8) Our only protection for what's coming, is to put all our trust in the Lord, searching for Him with all our heart

“And Moses said, Thus saith the Lord, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt, and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sits upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of the beasts.

“And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.

“But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the **Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians** (who put their faith in pagan gods) **and Israel** (those who worshiped the true God).” Exodus 11:4-7

The Bible tells us there are only two groups of people in God's perspective: Believers and Unbelievers. God cares nothing about the color of our skin or are ethnicity – both of which are an accident of birth. They are not under our control.

We must remember that the Egyptians were UNBELIEVERS and the Israelites were BELIEVERS. The Israelites were not “Jews” – they were believers in the true God of heaven – that is what the word “Israel” means.

God was showing the Egyptians and the Israelites what He is showing us today, that our only protection comes from God. The Israelites followed God's direction to put blood on their doorpost, and the angel of death “Passed Over” and all the first-born sons of every family were spared.

But God's “protection” does not come with a shallow statement such as, “I'm a Christian.” Going to church does not make a person a Christian! A true Christian is a true follower of Christ. And in order to “follow” Christ, we need to know Who He really is, and what His requirements are. Ninety-nine percent of ALL Christians today break God's commandments regularly. In fact, most of them don't even know what God's commandments are. They think if they “go to church” or if they don't murder or steal, somehow they qualify as a “good person” and will be saved – on that basis.

But God's requirements are very stringent.

“You shall be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.” Matt 5:48

Yet all the churches teach that NO ONE is “perfect” and that we just “try our best and God makes up the rest.” But we know that we must be perfect to enter heaven or the new earth, so WHEN does that “perfection” occur? Does God wave a magic wand over

us after we're dead? And how "perfect" must we be BEFORE we die? 80% perfect? 60% perfect? Even some non-Christians are pretty good people. Does this "game" also apply to them?

This is the kind of nonsensical cognitive dissonance that the churches are always promoting. God's says we MUST be as "perfect" as "our Father in heaven is perfect." In fact, Matt 5:48, is not a "command." It is a PROMISE! Jesus is telling us that HE is in control, and that He, eventually, will lead us through ALL the trials and tribulations that we must go through in order to strengthen our character until we are completely convinced that we need Him (Jesus Christ) to run our life completely.

Then, when Jesus Christ is making EVERY decision in your life – you WILL be "perfect" – because He makes NO mistakes!

(Lesson No. 9) The entire reason we are on this earth is to learn how to be "Perfect" – as our Father in heaven is Perfect." The churches and denominations are DEAD WRONG when they say "NO ONE can be perfect." When they say that, they are blaspheming and demeaning the power and magnificence of Jesus Christ – who said! "I came NOT to Destroy men's lives, but to SAVE them." Luke 9:56

The churches all believe that Satan can win God's children away from Him, and God doesn't know how to win them back. Therefore, Satan is the Winner, and God is the Loser!

But that CANNOT be!

The Israelites were told to sacrifice a Lamb for Passover the evening they left Egypt, and put its blood on their doorpost to save their Firstborn son.

The Lord spoke unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,

"Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying in the TENTH day of this month, they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for each house . . . Your lamb shall be without blemish (to represent the death of Jesus Christ – who was sinless – "without blemish"), a male of the first year. . .

"And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening." Exodus 12:3-6

(Lesson No 10) Why were the Israelites to pick the lamb to be sacrificed on the 10th of the month, and to keep it in their possession – ALIVE – until the 14th day, and THEN sacrifice it?

This directive by God is a very important fact in revealing a major FALSE doctrine in EVERY Christian denomination: the FALSE doctrine that Jesus was resurrected on Sunday – the First Day of the week.

First of all, the words “First day of the week” or “Sunday” NEVER appear in the Bible in the original manuscripts. They have been “written into” the translations by the translators, to comport with their OWN preconceived religious beliefs. The word is always :Sabbath” – the Seventh-day, Saturday, Sabbath: *Sabbaton* in the Greek.

Show us a Sign!

When the Pharisees demanded that Jesus show them a sign that He was the Messiah, Jesus responded:

“An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign; but there shall no sign be given to it, but the **sign of the prophet Jonah**.

For as Jonah was **3 days and 3 nights** in the belly of the whale; so shall the Son of man be **3 days and 3 nights** in the heart of the earth.” Matt 12:39-40

If Jesus was referring to the amount of time He would be in the grave, there is a major problem.

Jesus was crucified on Friday afternoon. He died at 3:00 P.M., (Mark 15:33-34 – the 9th hour – which is 3:00 P.M.). He was taken down off the cross (pole), and placed in the tomb.

If He was resurrected early Sunday morning (on the first day of the week, before dawn), WHERE are the 3 nights? There are ONLY TWO! Friday night and Saturday night. Indeed, there are at least **parts** of 3 **days**, but there is **not even a part of a Third NIGHT!**

The Truthfulness of Jesus Christ is at stake!! Why don't any churches address this serious problem??

The answer has to do with “Jonah.” Why did Jesus pick the “sign of Jonah”? When Jonah was in the belly of the whale for 3 days and 3 nights, was he dead? NO, Jonah was alive. He was surrounded by the whale (because the whale had swallowed him) but Jonah was NOT Dead!

The answer also involves Jesus' use of the words “heart of the earth.” Jesus KNEW the word “grave.” He had used it many times. But He did NOT use it here. He said,

“The Son of man will be in the **heart of the earth**. . .”

The “heart of the earth” did NOT refer to the grave. It referred to the time BEFORE Jesus was crucified, when He already had been **Betrayed** – and was “surrounded by the inhabitants of the earth. His doom was set, and He was unable to escape, but He was not yet crucified.

When Jesus referred to His crucifixion and resurrection, He almost always started with His BETRAYAL or “being delivered into the hands” of His enemies (He did not begin with His crucifixion). For example:

“Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be **BETRAYED** unto the chief priests. . . and they shall **DELIVER Him** to the Gentiles (unbelievers), to **scourge** and to **crucify** Him, and the **third day He shall rise again.**” Matt 20:18-19

The 3 days and 3 nights began with Jesus’ BETRYAL!

When was Jesus first BETRAYED? It was the night of the dinner at Simon the leper’s house, when Mary Magdalene poured the expensive ointment on Jesus’ feet and Judas criticized her, saying, “This should have been sold and given to the poor.” (It’s interesting to note that the Bible tells us Judas “carried the bag” – the bag of money for the poor – and Judas was Stealing from the “bag.”)

Jesus strongly rebuked Judas for his criticism of Mary Magdalene and said kind words about Mary’s devotion to Jesus. (Matt 26:6-13)

It was that night that Judas obtained the 30 pieces of silver from the Chief Priests, with the promise that Judas would “deliver” Jesus to them. (Matt 26:14-16)

So THAT was the Betrayal. Judas “**delivered**” (“**handed over**”) Jesus to the Chief Priests, scribes and Pharisees on Thursday night, after the Last Supper.

On what night was the dinner at Simon the leper’s house? It was **Tuesday night**. How do we know? Answer: Jesus said that day:

“Ye know that after two days is the feast of the Passover. . .” Matt 26:2

Jesus kept the **Passover on Thursday night**, because He was being crucified on Friday.

So, there we have it.

Tuesday night
Wednesday night

Thursday night
= 3 Nights

Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
= 3 Days

The 3 days and 3 nights were BEFORE Jesus was crucified, a time during which His DOOM was set (He was surrounded by the **inhabitants of the earth** = the “heart of the earth” – unable to escape – just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale. But Jesus was still ALIVE – just as Jonah was ALIVE in the belly of the whale).

THAT is precisely why Jesus chose that ONE sign – the sign of JONAH!

Jesus DID die! He died at 3:00 P.M. on Friday. He was put in the tomb soon afterwards. But He was resurrected as soon as the sun went down, Friday evening, at the beginning of the Seventh day, Saturday, Sabbath – the day that HE made HOLY! He was Dead in the tomb for only a few hours. Remember, “His body will not see decay (corruption)” (Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:31; Acts 13:37), a condition that certainly would have occurred after 3 days in the grave.

The women came to the tomb on the Seventh-day, Saturday, **SABBATH**, in the morning (the Greek word “*Sabbaton*”) BEFORE dawn, and He was already gone!

The Greek word *Sabbaton* is used 68 times in the New Testament. Fifty-nine times it is properly translated as Sabbath, but NINE times it is Fraudulently translated as “First day of the week” – Six of those times in relation to the resurrection.

If you look in Strong’s Concordance and the Interlinear Bible, you will see that *Sabbaton* ALWAYS means “Sabbath.” Again, the words “First day of the week” NEVER appear in the original Bible manuscripts in Greek or Hebrew.

They have CHANGED the Bible!

Correlation with the Lamb at Pentecost

At the time of the Exodus, the Israelites were told to take a lamb on the 10th day, keep it **alive** in their possession, then sacrifice it on the 14th day. This looked forward to the **LAMB of God who was ALIVE during the days immediately BEFORE His crucifixion**, but **AFTER His doom had been sealed** by His betrayal by Judas on Tuesday evening.

Correlation with Isaac as a “type of Christ”

Isaac was also a “type of Christ.” His father, Abraham, was asked by God to present Isaac as an “ascent” offering. Abraham and Isaac journeyed **three days** to Mt. Moriah where Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22:1-14). Obviously, during that 3 days journey, Isaac was ALIVE.

The Bible translators mistranslate the word “ascent” as “burnt” offering, because animals who were presented as “ascent” offerings were killed and burned. But the word should always be “ascent” and not “burnt.”

Even Abraham, who had been a pagan for years before being called by God to worship Him, thought that God’s request meant that God wanted Abraham to actually sacrifice His son, Isaac, by killing and burning Him on the altar.

But just like 99% of Christians today who don’t understand the true nature of God, Abraham also misunderstood God. When Abraham tied Isaac to the altar and lifted the knife to take Isaac’s life, God stopped him abruptly!

(Lesson 10) Faith or Works? Or Both? Indeed, Abraham “believed” God. He had Faith that, if Isaac was dead, God could resurrect Him. But Abraham’s actions revealed that He did not really understand the character of God.

The Bible says we must have Faith, but it also says that,

“Faith without Works is dead.” James 2:14

Faith WITHOUT the Actions (works) that correspond to that Faith – is worthless. We must not only talk the talk, but we must walk the walk.

It is easy to say, “I’m a Christian.” But a true Christian exhibits the life of Christ in his or her life. A true Christian keeps God’s commandments – ALL Ten of them. A true Christian lives, thinks, acts, eats, and handles stress God’s way. A Christian learns to “love his enemies.” That doesn’t mean that he condones what that other person has done, but he understands that God “can save to the uttermost”, that there is “Nothing too hard for the Lord” and that “God is the Savior of ALL mankind.”

There is NO “Hell”! The word “Hell” is NOT in the Bible – in the original text!

Satan demanded human sacrifices in the Old Testament. Even King Solomon fell into such paganism because he married pagan wives, he offered his children through the fire to the Satanic god, Molech. He offered his children as human burning sacrifices!

If God also demands human burning sacrifices in the end – in HELLFIRE – He would be no different from Satan! But God NEVER wants human burning sacrifices. Yet ALL Christian denominations believe in a Burning HELLFIRE for the wicked!

God says that burning a human being alive is an Abomination, and “that thought would NEVER enter His mind.” God harshly chastised the Israelites when He said about them:

“And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; **which I did NOT command them to do, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination...**” Jeremiah 32:35

God repeats this statement at least three times in the Old Testament.

(Lesson 11) There is NO “Hell.” The word “hell” is NOT in the Bible in the original Greek and Hebrew Scriptures. It has been “written in” by the translators. God says that burning a person alive is an “abomination” and “that thought has NEVER entered into” His mind.

In fact, Jesus said,

“I came NOT to destroy men’s lives, but to SAVE them.” Luke 9:56

Again, ALL of God’s disciplines are Remedial – to turn us back to right-doing (righteousness). They are never punitive – just to watch us suffer!

Conclusion:

Lesson 5: God allows sin to be magnified, to get worse and worse, until its clear that the only One who can turn things around is Jesus Christ. This lesson is especially important for the time in which we are living. Many patriots think Americans should take up arms and “take back our country.” But they don’t understand that Americans did this to themselves. Americans, including virtually all those who call themselves Christians, have rejected God. They don’t study their Bibles, they believe in “man” (doctors, psychiatrists, pastors) rather than believing in God, and they don’t keep the Ten Commandments (in fact, most Christians don’t even know what they are).

Lesson 6: God has not given man Freewill, irrespective of what **every** church teaches. If everyone had freewill, God would have lost control of His creation, and He couldn’t even answer a single prayer. We should be relieved that God is still in control of the world, otherwise everything would be hopeless.

Lesson 7: God has written the “script” for the history and future of humanity, and we play the parts in the script. Of course, everyone thinks they are making their own decisions. But God is in charge of ALL the circumstances of our life that’s why He could “harden Pharaoh’s heart” and He “sets kings up and takes them down” (Daniel 2:21)

Lesson 8: Seeking the Lord with all our heart, studying His Word – the Bible, and placing ALL our trust in Him is the ONLY protection we will have in the coming perilous times. The evil powers that control our government will most likely defund the police and release the violent rapists and murderers from prison. When armed gangs are roaming the streets, the only safety we will have is trusting completely in Jesus Christ.

Lesson 9: Most people have never even thought about the primary reason we are all on this earth. Some say, “to help people.” Others say, “to be happy.” But that’s not correct. The Bible says we are on earth “to glorify God” (Isaiah 43:7) and the way that we do that is to get to know Him better than we know any human being on earth, to exhibit the disposition and character of Jesus Christ in our every-day life, and to trust Him with everything in our life.

Lesson 10: Jesus was NOT resurrected on Sunday – the first day of the week – a pagan day of worship of the sun god. Jesus was resurrected on the Seventh-day, Saturday, Sabbath that begins on Friday night at sundown – the day that God made holy at creation, the day that God commands us to keep holy by putting all secular things aside and spending that day, every week, learning about God: getting to know Him up close, and personally, and learning to trust HIM with everything in our life.

Lesson 11: There is no “Hell.” God wants us to be a “Living sacrifice” – NOT a DEAD one – to give our allegiance to Him and to follow His ways – not our own. Like a loving parent, ALL of God’s disciplines are remedial – to turn us back to right-doing (righteousness) NOT to Destroy us!

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