

THINGS TO CONSIDER

By Steve Atwood

As you consider the following FACTS please keep in mind that the words of Paul in Romans through Philemon are the Words of CHRIST. However, many times they differ drastically from the words of Christ during his earthly ministry.

I. SALVATION:

FACT 1

UNDER THE KINGDOM MESSAGE AS UNDER THE LAW WORKS WERE ALWAYS A PART OF SALVATION, BUT UNDER GRACE SALVATION IS A FREE GIFT WITHOUT WORKS.

PETER: Act 10:34-35 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

PAUL: Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Eph 2:8 -9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

FACT 2

CHRIST SPECIFICALLY TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES AND OTHERS TO KEEP THE LAW. PAUL SAID WE ARE NOT UNDER THE LAW.

CHRIST: Mt 19:17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. Matt 23:1-3 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

JEWS: Acts 21:20 And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord, and said unto him, Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law:

PAUL: Romans 7:6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

FACT 3

THE TWELVE TAUGHT THAT WORKS WERE NECESSARY FOR SALVATION WHILE PAUL TAUGHT THEY WERE NOT.

JAMES: James 2:24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

PAUL: Romans 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

FACT 4

BAPTISM IS A WORK AND WAS NECESSARY FOR ISRAEL'S SALVATION BUT HAS NO PLACE IN GOD'S PROGRAM FOR TODAY. WE ARE LIVING IN THE DISPENSATION OF THE GRACE OF GOD. (EPHESIANS 3:1-6)

PETER:

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

1 Pet 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filthiness of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

PAUL: Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Rom 11:6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

FACT 5

JESUS TAUGHT THAT FORGIVENESS WAS CONDITIONAL ON MAN FORGIVING OTHERS WHILE PAUL TAUGHT THAT WE ARE FORGIVEN BASED SOLELY ON WHAT CHRIST DID.

JESUS: Matt 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

PAUL: Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

FACT 6

JESUS TAUGHT THAT THERE WAS AN UNPARDONABLE SIN AND YET PAUL SAID THAT THERE WAS FORGIVENESS FOR ALL SINS.

JESUS: Matt 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

PAUL: Acts 13:39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

II. THE GOSPEL

FACT 7

JESUS TOLD THE TWELVE TO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM WHILE PAUL WAS GIVEN THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD.

JESUS: Matt 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

PAUL: Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the grace of God.

FACT 8

PETER PREACHED THAT SINS WOULD BE BLOTTED OUT AT THE SECOND COMING WHILE PAUL PREACHED THAT CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS, THUS WE NOW HAVE FORGIVENESS. PETER NEVER PREACHES CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

PETER: Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

PAUL: 1Cor 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

FACT 9

PETER PREACHED THAT CHRIST WAS RAISED TO SIT ON THE THRONE OF DAVID WHILE PAUL PREACHED THAT HE WAS RAISED FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION ACCORDING TO "HIS" GOSPEL.

PETER: Act 2:29-30 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn wit an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

PAUL: 2 Tim 2:8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: Rom 4:25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

III. MINISTRY

FACT 10

PETER WAS SENT TO BAPTIZE WHILE PAUL WAS SENT NOT TO BAPTIZE:

PETER: Matt 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

PAUL: 1Cor 1:17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

FACT 11

JESUS WAS A MINISTER OF THE CIRCUMCISION (JEWS), AS WERE THE TWELVE, WHILE PAUL WAS THE MINISTER TO THE GENTILES

JESUS: Rom 15:8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirming the promises made unto the fathers:

TWELVE: Matt 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

PAUL: Romans 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, in as much as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:

V. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

FACT 12

JESUS TAUGHT THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO WORK FOR A LIVING SINCE THE KINGDOM WAS AT HAND WHILE PAUL SAID IF WE DIDN'T WORK THAT WE SHOULDN'T EAT.

JESUS: Matt 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

TWELVE: Acts 2:44-45 And all that believed were together, and had all things common and sold their Possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

PAUL: 2Thes 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. - 1 Tim 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

FACT 13

JESUS TAUGHT CONCERNING PRAYER, ASK AND YE SHALL RECEIVE, AND YET PAUL WAS DENIED THIS PRIVILEGE AND WAS TOLD THAT GOD'S GRACE WAS SUFFICIENT.

JESUS: Matt 7:7-8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

PAUL: 2 Cor 12:8-9 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

FACT 14

JESUS TOLD THE DISCIPLES THAT THEY WOULD HAVE A SUPERNATURAL ENDOWMENT OF KNOWLEDGE, PAUL SAID THAT WE HAVE TO STUDY.

JESUS: Mark 13:11 But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

PAUL: 2 Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.