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The Redemption of the World One Man's Obedience

We started sharing with you my persuasion. I was surprised to find out that it was not a new persuasion that Jesus had redeemed the entire world. For a good Baptist Charismatic guy to come to those conclusions was quite a leap of faith. I think somebody even made a movie out of that. It really was a long way for me and it took years and years and years of literally hashing out every doctrine that had controlled my life of legalism, manipulation and control. It was easy to let go of as far as a heart perspective, but it wasn't easy to let go of as far as a financial perspective and popularity because in the Word of Faith movement I was making about \$10,000 per week and speaking to crowds of several thousands most every week of my life. So, the Gospel has not been financially or popularity wise beneficial to me as an individual but to my heart the Gospel has been the most wonderful thing that has happened to me personally. To have entertained the thought that Jesus Christ and His power and what He did, did not require man's belief for Him to do for the human race what He came to do was unthinkable. It was not a thought that was entertained in the circles that I was in.

Many people ask how did you come to this. I really can't tell you. I don't know how because it took so long. I'm just that dense I guess. It took a long, long time and it took piece by piece of doctrines that I had held to for many, many years. There's a funny thing about doctrines if you're willing to be open-minded. That is that they either work or they don't. If being involved in the Word of Faith movement I either had to stay in denial and say they did work or I had to come to grips with the fact they don't work. I remember one of the first times when just coming that far to say it don't work, I was teaching to a group of people who were in my movement. I was able to apply a little bit of grace to the situation and we spoke the unspeakable and we thought the unthinkable and at the end of the session, I just felt in my heart that the people were just wanting to say out loud, IT DON'T WORK. Because everybody knew it didn't, you just couldn't say it. It's like any type of religious structure that you're in where that the belief system is what holds the group together rather than love, joy, peace, and things like that stuff.

When the doctrine is what holds it together you can't question the doctrine. When doctrine holds the group together, then you cannot think. When love, joy, peace and those things hold the group together you can ask any question you want. You can examine any possibility. But when doctrine is the glue, you're stuck. You're dead in the water. It just cannot be doctrine. I remember the time in my life when I resolved that everything I believed is subject to change because in whom I believe is not subject to change. Now that may sound very simplistic but that is what I had to do to free myself to think that no matter what happened to my doctrine my Savior was going to be the same, no matter what my doctrine changed. I realized there was a lot of people who believed

that Jesus was Savior, who already had a lot of different doctrines anyway. So, why not go for it and see whether or not I believe my own doctrines. I wasn't interested in finding out whether other people's doctrines were true or not. I just couldn't reconcile my own. I could not after a few years, believe that the doctrines I taught were true. For many reasons that became very, very obvious, nothing happened.

Nothing happened the way we said it would. Nothing happened the way we that we prescribed would happen if you followed it this route, believed this much, did this much, prayed these prayers, spoke these verses, what ever. All of us found out that we all had pretty much the same experiences of those who were not in our movement. The fact of it is, that movement is still going strong, but it has a great turn over of fate. Because the lure to a utopia life, here on earth that offers you the answers and the whys to everything that happens is very seducing. Everyone would love to understand why things happen in life but Forrest Gump beat us to that bumper sticker and just things happen. The desire to apply spirituality to all of our circumstances is a very deadly thing to happen.

Circumstances are circumstances, life is life and you may never, ever, ever be able to connect a doctrine with what just happened to you today. When we begin to do that, at least in my own personal life, I watched the mental illness grow. I remember having a friend, a young man actually that we taught in Bible School and I watched it in many cases but this one stood out in my mind very much. He remained stable. He went through one of our Bible Schools and he was taught if you speak the word, if you do this, if you live this way, if you confess all of your sins, if you do this right, if you that right, then accidents don't happen to you. Nothing but good comes to you and so on.

This young man wound up pulling out of parking lot and was broad sided. It was by comparison a relatively minor accident. But, it started a cataclysmic chain reaction in his mind that he eventually wound up in the mental institution from a relatively minor accident. When the accident happened it put in to question as to whether or not he was in God's will, whether or not he had prayed enough, whether or not he had given enough, whether or not he was good enough, whether or not he was righteous enough. He became so insecure about everything in the circumstances in his life that fear just literally gripped his heart, that if he wasn't doing good enough to get God to protect him from that circumstance then how could he have any confidence that walking out the door any moment would guarantee him that something cataclysmic wasn't going to happen. I think mental and emotional health is accepting the fact that something cataclysmic could happen to any of us at any time. Life could end at any time, any moment, to anyone that we love, people we don't know. We read about it in the papers every day.

The desire to be able to control those events is almost irresistible. It is understandably irresistible. That's the reason I believe that a revelation of the Gospel is so mentally and emotionally stabilizing. It doesn't divide people, this group from that group, but a revelation of the Gospel lets you know God views everyone exactly the same. There are no biggies, no littlies, there's no difference. My beliefs and my doctrines do not change God's beliefs about me. I'm certainly glad of that because what I think has changed a lot. However, the stability of the Gospel is not what I think about God, but the stability of the Gospel is found in what He thinks about me. And do you know what he thinks about me? Higher than anybody who loves me on this earth, He thinks I'm pretty cool. He

loves me, he finds no fault in me, love never finds fault and that's one of the characteristics of love in the love chapter. God is love; therefore, I must conclude that when God sees my life, He finds no fault.

The thing of it is, if I accept that for me of all of the jerks on earth that there happen to be, then the realization that if that is true for me, then when Jesus died on the Cross, God's opinion of the entire earth changed for every human being. We have the possibility of nurturing and entire generation in the Gospel. I think the first thing that people are going to have to be freed from is modern day Evangelical Christianity. It is very deadly. It separates, it divides, it puts people on different levels. While trying to preach Christ it actually in the long run takes away from the Glory of the Cross. I am speaking as a person who spent 25 years in the Evangelical Christian community. It seems strange to separate the difference between being a believer and an Evangelical Christian. It's not to say that Evangelical Christians aren't believers, it's just that they do not believe that Jesus redeemed the entire world. That's the reason they're evangelizing so desperately or maybe not so desperately.

If what the Evangelical community is preaching about us getting everybody redeemed so they can go to heaven, we don't seem to be terribly motivated to get people out of hell or avoid them from hell. That's been one of the things I've spoken of to many of my friends. I said, you know regardless of whether you agree with me or not I can prove to you that you don't believe *your* doctrine because you go to work every day, you work to get new cars, you work to have a nice home, a better home, you work to have decent clothes, clothes for your kids, you work for these things and the Bible says they're all very temporary. Yet Evangelical Christianity tells us that unless an Evangelical Christian reaches the unbeliever and leads them in the prayer they're going to go to hell. We either don't believe it or we are the cruelest people with the greatest knowledge on the face of the earth that we would not care that much.

I believe what is happening in the heart of the Evangelical, as was happening in mine was that I severely doubted the doctrine but couldn't voice my doubt. I'm coming to a conclusion of that even more and more by the fact that the people that we do share this with in the Evangelical Christian community, 95-99% are so willing and ready to convert, if you will, that it is just amazing. It's addressing questions that they've had their entire lives about the issue. This Gospel that we're hoping to share with you can be preached from any book, anywhere, all of the prophets spoke of it. I just had a very drastic, drastic influence on my heart when I began to study the issue of what does believing in Christ constitute. Does it gain your redemption? It's when I began to realize that redemption can produce a believer but believing cannot produce redemption because redemption was done by Jesus Christ, by God. They worked it out together between themselves. They deliberately left the human race out of the redemption plan so they could include them in gifting the entire world with redemption and cleansing before the Throne of God.

As I began to look at that, I saw where Jesus said that the law of the psalms and the prophets spoke everything about Him. The prophets prophesied everything. How many of you know that He even said God wouldn't do anything except He told the prophets? I

went back and did a short study in Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Amos, Habakkuk, Hosea, and Zephaniah, all of those that foretold about the Cross. They very conspicuously failed to include man's belief as a part of man's redemption. No prophet spoke of a time when the human race would be redeemed by the human race's belief. Not one line. I sold out the Gospel at that point to be really honest with you, when I saw that I have all the prophets backing me up in this issue. In fact, they foretold of a time when Jesus would redeem the entire world at the point when man had no obedience or any belief what so ever. The prophecy was that there would be no such thing as faith in people. Jesus proved that with His own disciples. Everybody gradually turned away from Jesus until finally even His 12 elect turned from Him, just before he went to the Cross and bore their sin.

We talked about the issue of the sin that Jesus bore. We're going to go in to that just a little bit more. How many of you here believe that the Bible teaches that Jesus bore the sin of the world on the Cross? Do you accept that? There are two things that I can find in the Bible that are defined as sin. One is a transgression of the law. Thank God we have the wonderful insight that teaches us that sin is a transgression of the law, but we also have the wonderful insight that is taught by Paul that where there is no law there is no transgression. You can't transgress something that isn't there. Why is the law no longer there? It was nailed to the Cross of Jesus Christ. So, it took care of sin as far as disobedience to the law once and for all at the Cross of Jesus Christ. Man's constant going back for re-cleansing of his life by the Blood of Jesus, I believe is an insult to the ultimate victory of the Cross of Jesus Christ.

The other sin that is spoken of and most of the people even in the Evangelical community agree, that the other sin, which is not an action of disobedience, it is a condition and it is called unbelief. Sin is unbelief; unbelief is sin. Did Jesus leave out the sin of unbelief when he went to the Cross to die for the sin of the whole world? Or did He, this is where we're at, did Jesus also die for man's unbelief as well as his disobedience? Wow. We finally came to the conclusion; at least most people came to the conclusion, that we are now free from the law, therefore, not judged by the law. If Jesus also died for the sin of unbelief, then we are also free from having to believe. Even the connotation is a little strange, *'you have to believe'*. I've changed that in my life. I no longer have to believe in Christ, I have the great honor and privilege of believing in Christ.

My belief does not generate redemption, but redemption has generated an incredible faith in my heart, that if God could have redeemed Mike Williams 2000 years before Mike Williams was ever born, if God could have foreseen all of this and said, I will redeem the world all by myself, because I love the creation that I created, then that is when faith in my heart, increased, it did not decrease. Something else increased and that is my desire to share this with other people. Evangelical friends told me, that if I preached this that no one would share the Gospel; if the whole world was redeemed why share the Gospel. It actually happens just the same. In the 90 – 99% of Evangelicals who have accepted what we are sharing, they have had the experience of going and sharing with their friends and people they come in contact with the Gospel, more now than when they believed the people that they needed to share with were going to go to hell if they didn't.

Now that they know that they've been redeemed already, it's such 'Good News' they just have to tell them. It's not us against them, it's not we're heaven bound, you're hell bound now you have to do what we did to become one of us. You are one of us. You already are redeemed. You have been given the gift of life freely, F-R-E-E-L-Y, freely, not by coercion of belief; not of being forced to believe or bow your knee. Belief should always be something that is a result of truth. If belief produces truth anything can be true. The fact is, belief does not validate truth. Truth validates belief. Belief cannot establish truth; truth can establish an incredible belief. Paul made the statement and we've gone through this before in Romans 1. It's an incredible statement, Romans 1:16 Paul said, 'for I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there in is the righteousness of God revealed, as it is written the just shall live by faith'.

The verse doesn't say what I said it said all of those years, that if you believed, you would become righteous. It said that it was a revelation of righteousness that *produced belief*. A far cry different than what Evangelical Christianity teaches that the belief produces the righteousness, but instead Paul declared that the Gospel that he wasn't ashamed of, and you may have to decide whether or not you're ashamed of this Gospel in front of not drunkards and prostitutes, but you may have to decided if you're not afraid of this Gospel in front of the Evangelical Christian community. That may be where you're going to have to lose your shame of the Gospel. To say, no, I believe that the whole world is redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb. That God did this by Himself and Thank God I understand it and I receive it and I am a believer and that does regenerate my heart, it renews my mind, it let's me know I am right with God. I also then view myself differently, but I also then have the opportunity of viewing everyone on this earth very differently than I did before. I don't view them as less than me. I don't feel less than anyone else, I don't feel more than anyone else. I can't view anyone else on the face of the earth as more than me. More important, less important, more righteous, less righteous, more holy, less holy, more spiritual, less spiritual.

Suddenly there is a completely even playing field in the respect of life as God has given it and as God has chosen to impute that life based on *His own faith*. Paul made it very clear and it' restated, especially in King James version, it's repeated several times, he said we were redeemed by the faith of Jesus Christ. He didn't say we were redeemed by our own faith. Jesus authored and finished faith; he fulfilled the law and nailed it to the tree, authored finished faith. The only two requirements ever on the human race were to keep the law and to believe. Could it be that Jesus fulfilled both requirements, not one, but both requirements for redemption? Wow.

I've had people tell me, 'Brother Mike, I don't agree with you, but I sure wish what you said was true.' Isn't it amazing that the Gospel could be such good news that even people who don't believe it wish it were true? Paul said the Gospel is not a demand for righteousness. Paul did not say it is a revelation of how to become righteous, he said it is a revelation '*of righteousness*' that will produce believers that can then experience what ... salvation. Salvation is not redemption. Redemption brings salvation to the soul. Paul taught salvation as what happens to *you*, not what happens to *God* when you believe; not what happens to the redemptive power of Christ, but instead it's that acceptance that

renews the mind and believe me it does renew the mind. It changes your whole perspective on everything and every body. The way you view issues, the way you view people, the way you view yourself is completely revolutionized when you see that you're believing in Christ doesn't produce redemption, it is an acknowledgement of the redemption that's been given.

There has always been this debate in Christian community as to is salvation instantaneous thing or is it a process? The fact of it is Paul speaks of it many times saying it's a process. Paul says that we are not of them that draw back to destruction, but believe to the saving of the soul. The soul isn't the spirit; the soul is the mind, the will and the emotions. Paul said if you believe this Gospel long enough, it will save the way you think. It will save the emotions, it will bring salvation, which simply means that believing will cause you to think about yourself the same way God sees you. Folks, that's getting saved. That is saved to the uttermost. If God views you as holy already, if God views you as righteous already, if God views you as redeemed already, if God views you as His own already can you imagine what a transforming thing it would be to find that out and actually believe it?

You see, when we preach that believing produces these things, then we live in terror as to whether or not we believe good enough. The fact is you never believe 'good enough', but the belief that you have will transform the soul. The transformation that comes will cause you to become an even greater believer. It will cause you to believe more. It will cause you to be a person of greater faith as the soul transforms to the truth, instead of your belief system establishing truth. Something that's true, is true whether people believe it or not. Truth is not established once a person believes something. It's like gravity, whether you believe in gravity or not, you can say, 'I don't believe in gravity', it's still affects you every day. Your non-belief does not take away factual truth. This truth of redemption is as factual as gravity. It's as factual as any natural law that you know. It's a spiritual law, but the fact of it is, this spiritual law was all inclusive of the entire human race, the same way that God designed the whole universe. Paul said you wouldn't have to have somebody preach to you out of here, all you'd have to is look at nature and it would tell you about this great Gospel.

How many people does gravity affect? How many people do the laws of nature affect? They affect everybody equally. They do not affect people on different levels. Whether you accept them, believe them, deny them, defy them, what ever, you can't change them. It's the same with this incredible spiritual law so to speak, that God was in Christ, redeeming the world unto Himself, not counting their sins against them. Wow. What did God do? He was in Christ. What was he doing in there? He was redeeming some of the world, redeeming the *whole* world. Once He did, what would he never do again, never count their sins against them, never again.

Do you realize that Evangelical Christianity thrives on sin held against you? That's the way it thrives. It is a guilt motivated performance mentality to achieve goodness that when it breaks down, it breaks down cataclysmically in life. When that belief system is exercised to it's fullest, it will come to an end and it will lead to a mental and emotional break down because the mind and soul have been taught that these things are true 'if' and

this is right 'if', and this happens 'if' and finally you do everything that you know to do and it doesn't turn out the way you've been told it's going to turn out and it leads to mental and emotional breakdown. I can tell you who is in the mental institutions of America. I have been there. I spent six terms there, yes you can say, no we know where he got his doctrine. That's quite all right. I spent six terms in mental institutions as a young teenager and in to my early 20's. A term is any amount of time. I was in there anywhere from a weekend to six months.

Later I read a statistic that over 70% of all of the people in mental institutions in America are professing born again believers in Jesus Christ. I knew that to be true because all of us in there talked about God. Everybody in the mental institution talked about Jesus, some of us *were* Jesus; we were spiritual people. Some of us were Moses, Mary Magdalene, and John the Baptist. When that pressure to be spiritual is put upon the flesh, it alters the mind in to a delusional state. Let me state that again, when the pressure is on to make the flesh spiritual, it alters the mind to a delusional state of denial. You cannot accept the facts; you cannot deal with truth. It cannot be faced.

I believe this Gospel Revolution is vitally important for every human being. I am very motivated to share this Gospel. I see people becoming motivated to share it, who cross that line and depart from Evangelical Christianity. It's a scary thing for me to realize I am no longer a part of the Evangelical Christian community. That was weird. Jerry Falwell wouldn't want me in his church. Oh my God. Pat Robertson wouldn't have me. Paul Crouch wouldn't want me; I used to speak on their TV programs. I've been there; I've done all of that. I tell you what, there is a vast difference between finding your approval with men and finding your approval with God and finding your approval is not based in your works, or how well you perform for God or men, but how well Jesus performed His duties as Lord and Savior when he came to this Earth and died for the entire human race. The Gospel is not a demand for righteousness; it's a revelation of a righteousness that already exists. Good news?

Turn to Romans chapter 5. It's really hard to jump in, in the middle of anywhere, but we're going to do this to take in the last part of this chapter. Romans 5:6; ⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Who did he die for, the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. That's just an understandable comparison that if there's a really good person, somebody might even give their life for them. But, this is Jesus dieing for the ungodly, not a good man, not good people. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. How was God's love manifested for us? Was it manifested for us when we became believers? No, it was manifested when Christ for the ungodly, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, ... wow, do you see that there was no transition of being justified by His blood through belief? How did his blood justify us? His blood justified us when he died for the ungodly. Cont...⁹how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! This is the difference between justification and salvation. In regards to God's wrath, how many of you know that if you don't understand

justification, you're going to think God's angry with you. Every body that doesn't understand justification believes there's an angry God just waiting to get them. But because you are justified through the work of the Cross, once you believe in Him, you know you are what, saved from *all wrath*. Just because you don't believe it doesn't mean you're *not* saved from wrath. It just means you're saved now. What does that mean? You know that God's wrath went on the Cross. Salvation doesn't take away the wrath of God; salvation is awareness that the wrath of God was taken away 2000 years ago. Salvation doesn't produce redemption; redemption produces a salvation for the soul and the mind. The part of us that can learn, the part of us that acts and reacts can be literally saved.

¹⁰For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him ... wow, wait a minute, when was man reconciled to God? When we became believers? No, we were reconciled when we were enemies. That verifies what Paul said that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their sins against them anymore. Cont...
¹⁰through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Based on this teaching, salvation is a revelation of that life of Jesus Christ. Salvation is based on the revelation that you have of justification. Salvation is not the obtaining of justification; it is the revelation of the justification. We can't save ourselves with our belief. What can you do? You can't redeem yourself with your belief. Even when we believe, it is based on what truth is and God's truth that saves the soul, that brings that salvation to us, that makes us know we're one with God.

Folks it's awesome to walk around all day long knowing you're one with God; you're not separated from God and to look at the prostitute on the street and know that she's not separated from God, she just thinks she is; that's probably why she's out there, because she has that low of an opinion of herself, she has that low of a view of herself. You won't meet anybody more judgmental than a prostitute. There's nothing more than condemns people to condemn. Condemned people condemn, judged people judge, guilty people pass judgment, which is a very basic common human aspect that whatever's in the heart is what you're going to give away. You can't give away what you don't have. If you are guilt ridden you can't give away acceptance, you can only give away judgment.

When I see someone extremely judgmental of others, I know someone who's living under four tons of guilt. When we speak of others and their guilt, we are speaking, revealing our hearts about how much guilt we are under. You may not know what that guilt is, but when you judge whether or not somebody's done somebody right or wrong, that's not judging, it's when you judge their relationship with God, based on their actions and deeds. That's judgment. In fact, Paul rebuked the church, he said, you have the wrong kind of judgment. He said, you ought to be able to judge when a brother does another brother wrong, but you're going around judging everybody's relationship with God. He said, it's a shame there's no body here that can judge accurately; he didn't say pass judgment accurately, he didn't say condemn accurately. We should be so free that it's very easy to look and see when someone's done someone wrong and mediate that. We send one to hell and one to heaven and the mediation has broken down. You have two people from two different worlds that you're trying to reconcile and you can't do it.

Do you see how much easier it would be if you first off affirmed that both are right with God? First off, you drop the defensiveness. I use to not be able to admit when I was wrong, because if I was wrong I was unrighteous. I wasn't right with God if I was wrong. Now, being wrong's fun. It doesn't make any difference, it's like, 'wow I was wrong, how 'bout that, no big deal.' Why, because my righteousness and my stance with God is not impeded by my wrong action or wrong conduct. Therefore, I can face my conduct, I can face what I've done, I can face what I've said, take responsibility for it and reconcile it with who ever it needs to be reconciled. If I am deemed to not be right with God, I'm going to go on the defensive with that and then there's no reconciliation between people.

¹¹Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. Wow, you've received what, reconciliation, redemption, righteousness and the atonement based on man's belief? Not in this chapter you're not going to find it. In fact, Paul's teaching in this incredible book of Roman's says that the revelation of this righteousness, the revelation of this atonement, the revelation of this sanctification and redemption can produce lots of believers but he has not validated that believers can produce redemption. Wherefore, then we begin to look at Paul's comparison then to validate his views that Christ died for the ungodly and that it applied that he reconciled the whole world. This is the comparison Paul uses. He says, ¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned. Why have all sinned because they've all done wrong? They've all sinned because one man disobeyed.

We could go back to the Garden of Eden and talk about that for centuries but I don't any body that was there. I don't understand the Garden of Eden. I understand some precepts that are taught about it, but I do not understand that place. I stop and try to think about this beautiful place where there was two trees there and two naked people running around that were just absolutely happy and the world being a different place than what we know it. I'm sorry my mind can't comprehend that. But, I can accept the concepts that the teachers that we have here have come out with to give us understanding of what's happening today and what a part of that is pertinent to our understanding today. I don't care if they had oranges in the Garden of Eden or not. It doesn't make any difference to me exactly how things were run in the Garden of Eden, but the things that are used in comparison to give me understanding, those things I want to know. The rest of them are everybody's speculation and speculation does not lead to salvation. It is revelation of redemption that leads to salvation.

He says here that one man's sin, by one man's sin, that's how sin got in to the world. That one sin brought death, whatever that means. People debate spiritual death, they debate physical death, they debate a lot of things, but we're going to just walk through this and see what it has to say. ¹³for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Sin was already in the world but it was not marked, or counted or graded until the law was given. That's pretty awesome. If Jesus took the law away, then what are we to assume then? You don't even have to assume it, every letter that Paul ever wrote he states that very fact, how that sin is no

longer imputed to the human race. It just doesn't happen that way. It's not marked or counted against anyone anymore.

He says, ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. Now this is absolutely mind-boggling. Sin from Adam was the sin of unbelief. I think the Bible teaches us that Adam's sin was unbelief. He was told that he was created in the image of God and his temptation was to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil for what purpose, so he could become like God. Wait a minute; you're eating of a tree to become what you already are? You see, it's not much difference from Christians today. We are still eating from the same tree, trying to become what we already are. We're still eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We're still living under laws, rules and regulations, trying to become something God has already made us to be.

Again, he says, ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. Now that blew me away. Adam, the guy who made everybody a sinner whether they liked it or not was a perfect figure of Jesus. I didn't like that. How could this damnable Adam, who threw the whole world into sin, whether they like it or not, involved in the plot or not, knew him or not, knew he existed or not, how could he be the perfect figure of the one that was coming? ¹⁵But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died ... how many is many? It was all. Vs.15 cont ... by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! How many? The same many.

What about those who haven't done the righteous deeds that Jesus did? We have to look at the perfect figure to determine. Do you have to do the righteous deeds that Jesus did to be righteous? The figure of it said that the people did not have to do the sinful thing that Adam did to become a sinner, so the perfect figure is that the man who did the righteous deed, the people who were born after Him, did not have to do His righteous deeds to become what he was. I tell you, for a life time long Evangelical Christian; this is good news to me. I almost want to turn Pentecostal right here, it's like you want to jump and shout and do what they always talk about, running around the pews, swinging from the rafters, whatever. This is good news folks. This is fantastic. Oh it's *dangerous doctrine*, it's *dangerous*. It's so dangerous we might share it with the *whole world*. It's so dangerous that we don't have to feel any division between the Muslim, the Jew, the prostitute, who ever and so because we don't feel those barriers we feel the perfect freedom to share with them.

Where as Christian's hearts palpitate when they get around somebody who is a Baptist. The Methodist can't stand to be with the Pentecostal. The Pentecostal has a hard time being the Jehovah witness. The Jehovah witness can't stand to be with ... it goes on and on, why, because their ability to be right determines whether or not they're righteous. That'd make anybody nervous. You see you can face somebody whether you believe they're right or not and whether they believe *your* right or not. It doesn't have to create walls of defense because it doesn't change what God did, no matter what.

¹⁶Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. That is the most bizarre statement. What led to this justification? Many offenses lead to this justification. That is weird. What do you have to have to be justified? You have to have a lot of offenses. Now we're going to get stoned for this. People will say, 'now they're teaching people to go out and make sure you're being really offensive to God so you can be redeemed'. We've already been redeemed because the offense wasn't the breaking of the law the offense was unbelief. My God, to think that Jesus took even that sin upon Himself at the Cross; the sin of unbelief and freed the whole world, never again to count our sins against us.

¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more ... it didn't say even as; this would be fantastic if it was just even as. If Jesus got as many people righteous as Adam got as many as he did sinners, that'd be fine, still much better than Evangelical Christianity but the fact is, he said it's 'much more'. And how we can take much more with the perfect figure of Jesus being Adam, who by his disobedience caused the whole world to become sinners, and then take Jesus who by the obedience of one, has made many righteous and say that people are going to hell, because they have not believed in Jesus, is to make the first Adam Lord, not the second Adam Lord. I believe Jesus is Lord. I believe He's Lord now more than I ever believed He was Lord before. Then we hear, 'you've got to make Jesus *LORD OF YOUR LIFE*', where is that verse? The Bible says when God raised Jesus from the dead, *God made Jesus Lord*. Humans can't make Jesus Lord. *God made Jesus Lord of ALL*.

Isn't it amazing that basic Evangelical Christianity's statements to validate the need for their preaching that the statements are not even in the Bible *at all*? Such as Jesus must become your *personal Lord and Savior*. There's no such statement in the Bible and it's the precipice for everything that Evangelical Christianity says validates what they do because we *already know that everybody needs to make Jesus their own 'personal' Lord and Savior*. To believe Evangelical Christianity you must first believe a lie. You must first believe a lie; nothing says a person must make Jesus their "personal" Lord and Savior. God made Jesus Lord; God made Jesus the Savior of *the world* and didn't ask man's 'permission' to do it.

¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Folks, that's salvation. It's those that believe this righteousness that believe this abundance of Grace. He says it causes you to reign in life. He didn't say, that it acquires redemption; it affects life *right now*, in a very profound way. You don't ever have to walk through this life feeling guilty ever again. Never. When I first started this revolution, or when this revolution started in me, I didn't start it, God knows that I'd never have picked a way that would have made me go broke. I would not have chosen that way. God said, 'okay you can go this way and get rich; go that way and go broke, choose you this day which way thou wanteth to goeth.' Honey, I'd have stayed Evangelical Christian word of Faith to the *hilt*, but I would have not known the joys of this redemption. I wouldn't have known the joys of

salvation. I would have lived in fear and questioned whether or not I really was, whether or not I measured up.

Peace of mind is absolutely priceless. They call it the 'Fruit of the Spirit'. The fruit of the spirit is the fruit of knowing redemption as a FREE GIFT. It does something to the heart. It does something you cannot change yourself. There is a joy, there is a peace that comes with it when Jesus becomes someone's 'personal Lord and Savior' it does not lead to joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, faith, patience or temperance. It leads to intolerance, bigotry, and it's been proven out throughout the centuries. It produces just the opposite of the 'Fruit of the Spirit'. When a doctrine is taught that causes people to feel superior to other people, it justifies the annihilation of that people who are inferior to them. You can go back and check the crusaders; you can go back and check the doctrine and history of Evangelical Christianity. It is one of the deadliest things that has ever existed on the face of planet Earth. Yet, the Gospel is the Power of God, unto the transformation of the soul, to where men stop judging each other, because they know God no longer judges them.

We've been judged by God, but the verdict is, 'you're holy, you're righteous, you're without fault, you're without blame in my sight'. What a verdict; what a judgment.¹⁸ Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. Wait, how many a people offended God? Judgment came to *how many* because of *one offense*? Where did that judgment come down on the whole human race? It came with the second Adam, who was there to totally undo and reverse the work of the first Adam. Man's fall in to sin began on a tree and ended on a tree. Totally. Condemnation came upon all because of how many people's offense? One man's offense, judgment comes to all. You say, "oh but Brother Mike, I can read to you this prophecy, God's mad, He's going to wipe out this, He's going to destroy islands, He's going to do this, He's going to flatten this place, He's going to do that place in.' Yes, but at the end of all of those prophecies, through all of the prophets, while their prophesying this anger, wrath and judgment comes a divine intervention of God's word and revelation of redemption that says, but God will send a Savior.

I believe if that Cross had not been raised when it was raised, that all prophecy was coming to a fulfillment that day, one way or the other. God was either going to kill every human that day, or one human was going to die for the sin of the whole world. Every nation was going to be judged in their own right, every body was going to be judged whether their deeds be good or evil and guess how many would have failed the test? And at the moment of the meeting of the ages, the Bible says, Jesus said and if I be lifted up, I will draw all unto me. Do you know what he's speaking of there? The wild thing about it is that Jesus said right before that, 'Now is the judgment of this world'. Now is the judgment of what? The whole world was about to be judged. All of those prophecies you read about God going to judge the world, they are about to be fulfilled right now. 'And I, if I be lifted up will draw all unto me.'

When that Cross went up, I see it as the lightning rod of the ages. All of God's anger and wrath against sin, it was like a lightning rod that drew the punishment of God into

the body of his own begotten Son. Sin was punished for the entire human race and modern day Evangelical Christianity has desecrated the Cross of Jesus Christ. It has made it of no affect. It has made it something that causes people to be on different levels rather than that great death that was the equalizer of this entire human race. That one died, all are dead; that one was raised they're all raised. I hate to apologize for my zeal, but I'll tell you, I've believed the lie for so many years. I believed a lie for so many years and I was afraid to believe anything else because I was afraid it would lead me away from Christ but I finally found the Gospel. Which has lead me to believe in the Lordship of Jesus, more now than I ever believed it before. He is Lord. There is only one redeemer that ever came to this earth and that was Jesus Christ.

There's only one who ever, ever bore the sin of the world. It is Jesus Christ. Modern day Christianity has taken His glory and said we will share it and they will not and we did not, even though we arrogantly thought we were. Jesus is Lord of all. He is Lord. The Bible says that he might be Lord of all, in all, through all, of all, to all, everything in Him, of Him, through Him, to Him, by Him, except, no, no exceptions.¹⁸ Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. We know that many is all, Evangelical Christianity doesn't doubt that many is all here. Why do they doubt that many is all in the rest of the verse? For by one man's disobedience, many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. It's the preaching of this righteousness folks that makes believers. It's not the preaching of hell that produces believers.

I've believed in Jesus since I was five years old. Do you know why I believed in him? Because if I didn't I was going to hell. Do you know that the promise as to what I had to do to avoid hell made me doubt all of my life whether I really believed him or not? Do you know that this year for the first time in my life, I got to believe in Jesus without *having* to believe. What glorious freedom, what glorious salvation. I know that I'll be able to know beyond a shadow of doubt that I believe in Jesus Christ, because I don't *have* to. I now believe because it is the truth. It's the same as if I went out there and jumped in the air and came back down to the earth. I believe that. I believe gravity will pull me down to the earth if I jump up in the air. That's just how much I believe Jesus Christ is real. It's truth. It is truth, my belief had the burden of validating truth and now truth is validating and producing belief. What a difference. What a difference.

²⁰The law was added so that the trespass might increase. The trespass (or offense) abounded to how many, to all. The law took the sin of one man and imputed it to the whole world. Cont.²⁰... But where sin increased, grace increased all the more. This is where Evangelical Christianity again takes this verse totally out of context. Do you know where they're talking about where they say ... where sin increases, grace increased all the more. Now they don't even quote it right. This is the way they put it, 'Where sin increases (abounds), grace doeth much more increase (abound). You know what they say? They point out San Francisco, Orlando, Atlanta, Miami, we know one thing (they say), God's grace can be greater than all of that sin in that town. That is so out of context it is not even funny. Where did sin abound? It abounded (increased) under the law. The

law took it and held it against everybody. Where sin 'abounded', where sin was taken by the law and declared everybody guilty, grace did much more abound. It has taken righteousness and made everyone *innocent*.

These are past tense subjects. Not modern day Evangelical subjects. ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, ... When did sin reign unto death? It is under the law, Adam to Moses and the law imputed it to the whole world, and everyone was guilty of one man's transgression. ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, where, unto death. How long did sin reign? It reigned until what happened, until a death stopped the reign of sin. What was the reign of sin? Was everybody running around doing wrong the reign of sin? The reign of sin was the law holding the transgression of one man against the whole world. ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Irrelative there? No folks, grace reigns through righteousness by one man Jesus Christ, whether you believe it or not.

Believing is a wonderful thing. I want to convert as many people as I can to becoming believers. Now, I'm free to do it, not under a law to do it. I've challenged people as we've taught this just in this last year and I've asked the question, how many of you won somebody to Jesus last week. Then the group sits there and hangs their head and thinks, oh God. How many of you would safely say that you're probably not going to next week either then? You're probably right, I didn't do it last week, but don't cover the whole year, just to save people embarrassment. So, I asked them to pretend that what I was saying is true for one week, see what it does to your heart. Don't decide now, but since you're not going to win anybody to Christ next week anyway, pretend for a week this is true. Then when you get in to the cab and the guy from Arab with a turban wrapped around his head get in and view that guy as redeemed by the blood of the lamb, and see how your attitude towards him changes.

When you see the prostitute on the street corner and your heart wants to judge her just like that, view her as the redeemed of the Lord, see how your heart changes towards her. See what it will do to the heart. If this does something negative to your heart don't believe it. But if it has the power to produce love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, patience, faith and temperance, only the spirit can do that. Only the spirit can do that. We are ministers Paul said, of reconciliation. We are not ministers to get people reconciled. We're ministers of a reconciliation that has already taken place. And it is a glorious, glorious gospel. I believe that the year 2000 once again, is going to be a real turning point, because I think it's going to mark in the history books, the declining fall of modern day Evangelical Christianity.

They've been waiting on the year 2000, for 2000 years. It's going to come, it's going to go and the world's going to ask, 'do you want us to wait another 2000 years to see if you're right?' I think not. This gospel is as Paul called it, there's only two things he called the Gospel, He called it the Gospel of Peace which means cessation (the end of) of hostility, and the Gospel of Grace, which means a favor that has come between God and man that man did not gain or own, by his belief, obedience or anything else. Good news.

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