

# Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

1Co 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. - 1 cor 6:9-11

347 - Red book

## Introduction:

1. The popular evangelist Dr. Charles Finney came into town to preach a series of meetings. One night he preached on, "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin." - 1Jn 1:7 After the service, a stranger asked the preacher to walk home with him. Local residents advised against it - they knew who the man was. The preacher went with him anyway. Off into the night they went and the man ushered the preacher through the back door of a building. The stranger locked the door and put the key back into his pocket. "Don't be afraid. I'm not going to hurt you. I just want to ask you a few questions. Do you believe what you preached tonight?"

The preacher answered, "I most certainly do."

The man continued, "We're in the back of a saloon. I am the owner of this saloon. Often wives come in here and lay their babies on the counter and beg me not to sell liquor to their husbands. I turn a deaf ear to their cries. I make sure that when a man leaves here he is drunk. More than once a man has been killed crossing the railroad tracks near the saloon. Tell me, preacher, can God forgive a man like me?"

The preacher replied, "I have but one authority, the Word of God and it says "the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin."

"That's not all," said the stranger. "In another room I run a gambling hall. If a man doesn't spend all his money on liquor, I take him into that room and use marked cards to see that he is fleeced of his last dollar. I send him home penniless to a hungry family. Preacher, I am the sole owner. Tell me honestly, can God forgive a man with a heart like that?"

Again the preacher answered, "I have but one authority, the Word of God which says, "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin."

The man spoke again. "That's not all. Across the street is my home where I live with my wife and daughter. Neither one has heard a kind word from me in the last five years. Their bodies bear the marks of my brutal attacks. Pastor, do you think that God could forgive a man with a heart like mine?"

The preacher lowered his head. His eyes filled with tears, "Sir, you have painted one of the darkest pictures that I have ever gazed upon, but I have one authority which says, "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin."

The man opened the door and ushered the preacher outside into the cold night air. Not until the next morning did the man leave the saloon. He spent the night tearing up decks of cards and pouring liquor down the drain. Finally he went home and sat in the living room.

His little daughter ran into the room. "Daddy, mommy says that breakfast is ready," He answered the little girl with a kind voice and gentle words. The little girl ran back into the kitchen. "Daddy spoke kind to me! Something is wrong." The mother followed the little girl into the living room.

The man beckoned to them sitting one on each knee. He explained to their amazement that they had a new husband and a new father. "I'm

done with that business across the street!” The man soon became a part of a Detroit church and later he became a leading official in that church. When asked how his life was changed he would always say, “the blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, cleanses us from all sins.”

a. The bar owner’s life changed and he became a fine Christian husband and father.

b. How do you explain such a great change in a person’s life?

2. Charles Gabriel wrote about this change in his hymn

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought

Since Jesus came into my heart!

I have light in my soul for which long I had sought

Since Jesus came into my heart

3. Salvation is great because of the change it makes in a person’s life.

a. Some of the Corinthians had been terrible sinners

b. But God saved them and changed them completely. The behavior that they used to practice was practiced no more. 1Cor 6:11

c. Salvation is great because it results in a changed life

## I. A CHANGED LIFE - VS 9-11A

• “And such were some of you” refers to what they used to be before they were saved

• Corinth was a wicked city

○ It was on the crossroads

○ The sea was nearby and sailors visited the city

• Salvation brings a change in a person’s life

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

• Salvation makes you a new creature - a new person

• Look at the apostle Paul - look at John Newton

## A. A Drastic Change

9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you....

1. In 1Cor 6:9-10 Paul gives a list of ten sins

a) *Sexual sins*

- (1) Fornicators - those who were involved in sexual immorality before or after marriage
- (2) Adulterers - those who were unfaithful to a marriage partner
- (3) Effeminate - male prostitutes
- (4) Abusers of themselves with mankind - homosexuals

b) *Spiritual sins - idolaters - those who bowed down and worshipped false gods and false religions*

c) *Social sins*

- (1) Thieves - those who steal and take from others
- (2) Covetous - those who are greedy and desire what others have
- (3) Drunkards - those who are bound by alcohol and strong drink
- (4) Revilers - those who destroy with their tongues and blaspheme God
- (5) Extortioners - those who steal indirectly and take unfair advantage of others

2. It is a list of the wicked and sinful things that the Corinthians practiced at one time

3. Then Paul said, “And such were some of you”

a) *Paul commented that some of the Corinthians to whom he was speaking had practiced those very sins*

b) *“You used to do these things until a drastic change happened in*

*your lives*

*c) The more sinful a person is the more drastic the change that happens when that person is saved*

4. Long ago the Red Cross was gathering supplies, medicine, clothing, food and the like for the suffering people of Africa. Inside one of the boxes that showed up was a letter. It said, "We have recently been converted and because of our conversion we want to try to help. We won't ever need these again. Can you use them for something?" Inside the box were several Ku Klux Klan sheets. The sheets were cut down into strips and eventually used to bandage the wounds of black persons in Africa. It could hardly be more dramatic—from symbols of hatred to bandages of love because of the new creation.

## **B. A Divine Change**

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

1. This verse tells us that the change is more than turning over a new leaf
2. Thank God for His amazing grace that delivered us from our sinful past
3. The change of Mel Trotter, John Newton and Saul of Tarsus is a divine change
4. Human effort ends in failure and futility but God's saving power triumphs
5. John Peterson wrote:

My Father is omnipotent  
And that you can't deny;  
A God of might and miracles;  
'Tis written in the sky

It took a miracle to put the stars in place;  
It took a miracle to hang the world in space.  
But when He saved my soul,  
Cleansed and made me whole,  
It took a miracle of love and grace!

6. Salvation is nothing less than a miracle
  - a) *The change that takes place when God saves a person is nothing less than a miracle*
  - b) *When you talk about a miracle then you are talking about something that only God can do*
  - c) *God can take a liquor bottle out of a man's hand and replace it with a Bible*
  - d) *God can take a mouth that was filled with profanity and fill it with praise*
  - e) *God can take a sinner and make him into a saint*
  - f) *He can take a drunk and make him into a deacon*
  - g) *He can take a woman selling her body on the corner and put her into the choir singing God's praise*
7. Salvation is great because of the change that it brings.

A Changed Life....

## **II. A CLEANSED LIFE**

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

- Salvation not only produces a changed life, but it also produces a cleansed life
- New life in Christ brings a washing

### **A. The Meaning of This Cleansing**

1. What does it mean when the Bible says that we have been washed?

2. The Bible tells us that our sins have been washed away
  - a) *Re 1:5b ... Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,*
  - b) *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;*
  - c) *1Jo 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*
3. Our hymns tell about the cleansing
  - a) *Oh happy day, Oh happy day  
When Jesus washed my sins away.*
  - b) *There is a fountain filled with blood  
Drawn from Immanuel's veins  
And sinners plunged beneath that flood  
Lose all their guilty stains*
4. Salvation is great because the blood that Jesus shed on Calvary has washed our sins away.
5. To have our sins washed away means that we have been forgiven
  - a) *Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*
  - b) *1Jo 2:12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.*
6. To have our sins washed away means that those sins have been forgotten
  - a) *Jer 31:34b ... for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*
  - b) *Heb 10:17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.*

## **B. The Measure of this Cleansing**

1. When we were little kids and out in public somewhere and I would

- get some dirt on my face and my mother would take her hankie or a napkin and stick it on her tongue and wipe a spot of dirt off my face.
2. When the Lord saves us and cleanses us He does more than give us a little spit bath. He doesn't just wipe off that one spot of dirt.
  3. When God cleans us up it is a full and total and thorough cleansing
  4. In vs 9-10 Paul lists the vilest of sins - yet in vs 11 Paul says that we were washed

a) *Are there things in your past that you are ashamed of?*

b) *Are there things in your past that you hope no one ever finds out about?*

c) *Our past is washed away, it is forgiven, it is forgotten*

*Mic 7:19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*

*Ps 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*

5. One of the most notoriously bad characters who ever lived in New York was Orville Gardner. He trained prize fighters and was the companion of all sorts of hard characters. His reputation was so thoroughly bad that he was called "Awful Gardner." He had a little boy, whom he dearly loved, and his little boy died. A short time after the boy's death, Gardner was standing at the bar of a New York saloon, surrounded by a number of his companions. The night was sweltering and he stepped outside the saloon to get a little fresh air. As he stood out there and looked up between the high buildings at the sky above his head, a star was shining down upon him, and as he looked at it he said to himself, "I wonder where my little boy is tonight?" Then the thought came to him as quick as a flash, "Wherever he is, I will never see him again unless I change my



life.”

Touched by the Spirit of God, he hurried from the saloon to the apartment where his godly mother was. He went in and asked his mother to pray for him. They spent the whole night in prayer and towards sunrise “Awful Gardner” found peace and gained the victory.

Gardner was a drunk and he had a jug of whiskey in his house at that time. He did not dare to keep it but he did not know what to do with it. Finally he took the jug down to the river and rowed over to an island. He set the liquor on a rock and knelt down. He later said, “I fought that jug of whiskey for a long time.” God gave him perfect deliverance. He did not dare break it, lest the fumes should tempt him. He did not dare leave it lest someone else might find it. Finally he dug a hole and buried it. He left the island a free man. “Awful Gardner” became a mighty preacher of the Gospel.

A Changed Life.... A Cleansed Life....

### iii. A CONSECRATED LIFE

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

- “Sanctified” speaks of that which has been set apart
- Ge 2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.
- Ex 29:43 And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory.
- We have been set apart to God - we have been consecrated
- To be sanctified or consecrated means that we are....

#### A. God's People

1. I'm a child of God - that never ceases to amaze me
  - a) *Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*
  - b) *Ga 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.*
2. Even more amazing - He is not ashamed to call me his child

*Heb 2:11 For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,*

  - a) *I was a wretched, vile sinner*
  - b) *Yet, now, God is not ashamed to claim me as His child*
  - c) *Say it slowly to yourself - "I am God's child"*
  - d) *Jesus died for me so that God could claim me as His child*
3. Furthermore, being sanctified means that we are.....

## **B. God's Property**

*1Co 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

1. To be sanctified means that we have been set apart for God's holy purposes
2. In all we do we are to glorify God

*1Co 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*
3. This is one of the distinguishing marks of God's people - we seek to glorify God
  - a) *Our lives are different so that they glorify God*
  - b) *Our behavior is different so that our lives glorify God*

A Changed Life... A Cleansed Life... A Consecrated Life....

## **IV. A CREDITED LIFE**

*11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

- I love the word “justified”
  - Ro 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
  - Ro 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
  - Ro 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- What does it mean to be justified?

### **A. How God Accounts Us**

1. “Justified” means that God has declared us righteous
2. The Corinthians were once unrighteous - 1Cor 6:9  
**9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.**
3. But now we are called “righteous”
4. We are righteous because Christ’s righteousness has been put into our accounts
5. We had no righteousness of our own - our righteousnesses are like filthy rags
6. Justification means that I am “just as though I have never sinned” - That is how God sees me
7. Because God sees us righteous in Jesus Christ we understand...

### **B. Why God Accepts Us**

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

1. We are not accepted in ourselves, but we are accepted when we are in Christ, in the beloved one.
2. I love the story of Mephibosheth
  - a) *All that David did for Mephibosheth he did for Jonathan's sake*
  - b) *David and Jonathan were best friends*
3. All that God does for us is for Jesus' sake
4. What a great salvation we have.

## Conclusion:

1. Donald Grey Barnhouse told the story of how years ago in Scotland, there was a fisherman called Old John who was bound by strong drink. He took the money earned from his catch and spent it on liquor while his wife and children suffered. They lived in a shack at the edge of the fishing village and eked out an existence in extreme poverty. But Old John came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. After that he brought all his money home and gave it to his wife. He worked steadily, and soon there were new clothes, the children had shoes, plenty of food and coal for the fire. After a several months of this transformed existence the wife said, "John, if you are going to keep on like this we should move into a better house!"  
"You're right," said John. "I'll go and see the landlord at once." He made his way through the town to the landlord and asked to rent a certain house. The landlord said, "I would never rent a good house to you, Old John." "Why do you say that?" asked John. "You don't know me at all!" "Of course I know you," said the landlord. "You are Old John the drunken fisherman." "You are mistaken," said John. "You have never seen me before. Old John is dead; I am New John, a new creature in Christ Jesus." And he pulled out his pocket a wad of money before the astonished landlord. Soon New John was living in a new house.