

1. Earlier on November the 24th I taught in part 2Ti 2:1-3 and when the clock tolled 11:30 A.M. I was in the process of teaching the *Doctrine of Witnessing*.

2. Before we continue our categorical analysis of witnessing, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.

NIV

2Ti 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the **grace** that is in Christ Jesus.

2Ti 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many **witnesses** entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

2Ti 2:3 Endure hardship with us like a good **soldier** of Christ Jesus.

Comments:

1. I think the best way to study these three verses is to review the three active words: grace, witnesses and soldier.

2. We have completed a study of Grace and when the clock tolled 11:30 A.M. at our last session, I was teaching the *Doctrine of Witnessing*.

3. I want to review some of that learned and then we will begin new material on page four.

Witnessing

1. Witnessing is the responsibility of every believer; witnessing is the normal exhale of doctrine inhaled and witnessing will be effective regardless of the motivation of the one witnessing because the power is in the Word.

2. The convincing of sin, righteousness and judgment is the responsibility of God the Holy Spirit. Joh 16:8-11

3. Some false concepts of witnessing are: assuming the lost will not be saved if we do not witness, assuming you are spiritual because you witness, assuming you are spiritual because you witness "effectively," assuming you must ask people to accept Christ in your presence and assuming God is not using you if God does not lead you to a "target."

4. God will make certain every believer gets the gospel. Tit 2:11; Joh 1:9; Rom 1:21; 28

5. We should witness simply because God said to do it. Let's look at a few nuances of witnessing.

The Family Plan

1. The first parents (Adam and Eve) set the example for all future parents by witnessing to their children.

2. The family plan of evangelism continued up and through the time of Noah and it is our job today as parents and grandparents to witness to members of our families.

3. Evangelism in each of the respective ages has its nuances. For example:

Noah to World

1. After the flood (c. B.C. 5000) the second first family was miraculously rescued. Eight pure souls. The eight pure souls survived the angelic revolution described in Genesis chapter six.

Abram and Family to Canaan

1. Abram finally settled in Canaan where he served as a witness to various tribes often after defeating them in battle.

Moses to the Land

1. God called Moses (c. B.C. 1400) back from Arabia to witness to his own people and ultimately lead them through the desert. Exo 3:2-4

2. See the chart on page three for a map showing the location of "the Arabian Tribes."

Jonah to Nineveh

1. Jonah (c. B.C. 900)) was ordered to the capital of Assyria. He finally, under great pressure went to Nineveh and Assyria became a client nation to God--Book of Jonah.

Solomon to Queen of the South

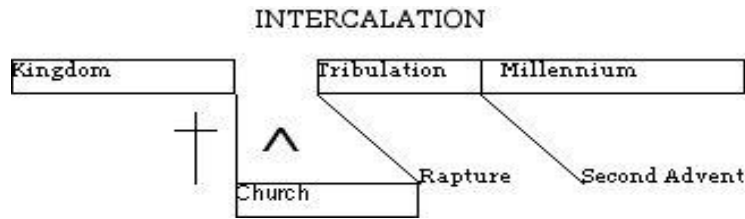
1. Solomon (c. B.C. 800) made quite the witness to the Queen of Sheba.
1Ki 10:1-9



Christ to Israel

1. Hypostatic Union (c. B.C. 6) is also called the Kingdom Age for it is the age in which Israel is offered the long-awaited Messiah. Again, the family plan was used of God to evangelize the young.
2. This age was most unique because the Son of God appeared on earth and offered His kingdom to Israel. Salvation in this age was the result of accepting Jesus as the Messiah.
3. The book of Matthew is a synoptic Gospel and thus its contents have primary application to Israel. Ergo, positional sanctification is a product of accepting Christ as the Jewish Messiah. The primary application, therefore, is related to the Messiah's offering, and any acceptance of the Messiah, by definition, must be "before men."

4. The Kingdom Age, as you can see from our dispensation chart, is a sub-age occurring at the close of the Jewish Age proper when the Second Person of the Trinity agreed to step down from heaven and reject the attributes of His Deity and become the Jewish Messiah.

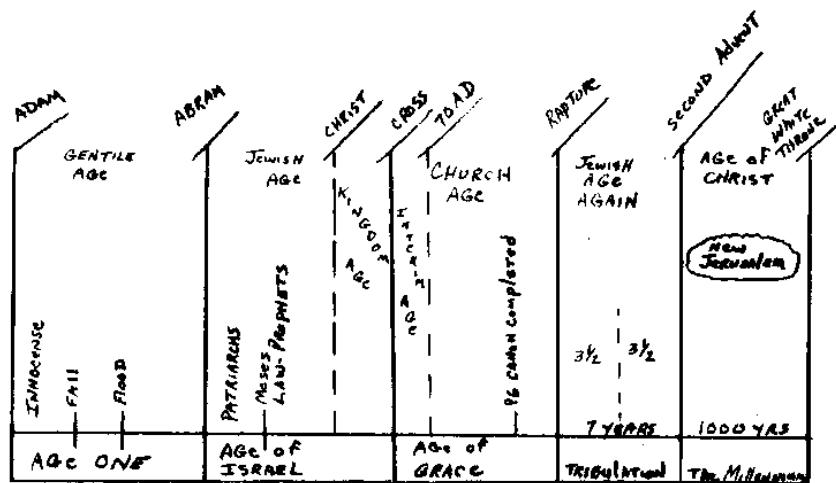


You and I to the World

1. Much of that taught earlier will apply either directly or indirectly to the Church Age. We are to serve as personal evangelist and assist organized evangelist in witnessing to the world.

Two Eschatological Ages.

1. Age of Israel Tribulation-This unique age is separate but clearly the final seven years owed Israel. The Tribulation is a Jewish age. It was foretold by Daniel in Dan 9:24-27 and is commonly called the Seventieth Week.
2. Like all ages, personal and family evangelism will be important. The catalyst of all evangelism, however, in the Tribulation will be Israel.



3. Once again Israel will take the lead in world-wide evangelism. In those seven devastating years, 144,000 Jewish evangelists, the resurrected Moses and Elijah, three angels and a big bird will spread the Gospel throughout the World.

- Jewish Evangelists

Rev 7:4 Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel ...

Rev 7:9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

- Elijah and Moses

Rev 11:3 And I will give power to my two witnesses (Moses and Elijah), and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

Rev 11:5 If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die.

Rev 11:6 These men have power to shut up the sky so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want.

Rev 11:7 Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them.

Rev 11:8 Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

Rev 11:9 For three and a half days men from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial.

Rev 11:10 The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.

Rev 11:11 But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them.

Rev 11:12 Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on.

- Angelic Witnesses

Rev 14:6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--to every nation, tribe, language and people.

- A Large Bird

Rev 8:13 And I beheld, and heard an eagle [**Aetos** - a flesh eating bird] flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels [**Angelos**], which are yet to sound!

4. The Millennium—This age is also called the Age of Christ. It is the promised perfect environment on earth in which the four unconditional covenants will be given Israel—Abrahamic, Palestinian, Davidic and New. Christ will rule from Jerusalem and Israel will again be proudly displayed on earth as His chosen people.

4.1 The personal reign of Jesus Christ begins with only believers but there are children with volition born to believers and each generation will need to be evangelized.

4.2 The responsibility for evangelism seems to rest with the Lord Jesus for so extensive is the knowledge of Christ, there will no longer be a need for teachers.

Isa 11:9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Jer 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

5. As promised we will now concentrate on what the Scriptures teach about witnessing in the Age of the Church.

6. Our job is to accurately present the claims of Christ with a relaxed mental attitude responding to the positive volition of those who are ready for gospel hearing.

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

7. The Holy Spirit will do the rest of the work, recall the power is in the Word.

8. People simply believe for salvation as opposed to walking the aisle, raising their hand, signing a card, cleaning up their life, etc.

8.1 The view that faith is not enough is blasphemous, arrogant and denies the *Doctrine of the Total Depravity of Man*. Mankind is “no dang good—he is without hope, without Christ and without eternal life and his works are like filthy rags and deceit and wickedness characterize his being.”

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

8.2 Let us take a look at a few Scriptures which tell us faith is sufficient without works and one which even tells us "the more you work the greater the debt."

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

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

Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Rom 4:4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

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

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:

Joh 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Joh 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Joh 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

9. So faith alone in the work of Christ is sufficient for salvation.

10. As ambassadors for Christ, believers are the primary agents of witnessing in the Church Age.

2Co 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

2Co 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

2Co 6:3 Giving no offense in anything, that the ministry be not blamed:

11. To give no offense demands knowledge of Doctrine.

12. In witnessing we must avoid false issues and theological questions. We must simply present the claims of Christ.

1Jo 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

13. Witnessing comes in two ways: the example of your life and the word of your lips.

NIV

2Co 3:2 You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody.

2Co 3:3 You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

14. The reward for witnessing is part of your blessing both for time as well as for eternity.

Dan 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

15. Now let's see what we can learn from the second active word "the Soldier."

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End Lesson

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