

Sanctification Salvation: Salvation From the Power of Sin

When you read the Jesus' Parable of the Sower (Matt 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15), what seed describes you?

How does the apostle Paul's description of slavery provide some perspective?

3) "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4) And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. 5) Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. 6) And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. 7) Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. 8) And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold." (Mark 4:3-8, ESV)

16) Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17) But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18) and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. (Rom 6:16-18, ESV)

How do you move past the stage of an infant in Christ? How do you assess your development?

1) But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2) I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, 3) for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? 4) For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? (1 Cor 3:1-4, ESV)

1) So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2) Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3) if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. (1 Pet 2:1-2, ESV)

18) But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19) Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20) idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21) envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23) gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24) And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (Gal 5:18-24, ESV)

What should Believers strive for? Is this an active or passive process?

11) So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. (Rom 6:11-12, ESV)

1) Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2) And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Eph 5:1-2, ESV)

14) As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15) but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16) since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." (1 Pet 1:14-16, ESV)

8) But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. 9) But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. 11) But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1 Tim 6:8-11, ESV)