

“WHOSOEVER WILL” AND THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

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In writing this paper, I feel like our Brother John wrote in 1 John 2:21: “***I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.***” For two reasons, then, I have taken upon myself to do this study: 1) That I have done the due diligence to put in writing a focused comparison of the Doctrine of Christ in respect to “*Whosoever Will*,” especially for the classes of Baptist International. And, 2) That if there is a brother beloved who is not entirely firm on his understanding of the availability of salvation to “every one that believeth,” that this work would be a good resource of study.

We have seen the heartache and division caused by a few brethren we love over the false doctrine of *limited atonement*. I personally have seen more than a few churches divided over this unscriptural teaching. However, the remedy is to teach the truth, with the hope that future generations learn and understand that Jesus Christ is *the* source of our doctrine. And that the most important and history-changing work Jesus has done when he gave his life a ransom for all, would not be hindered.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one that believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16

4 Who will have **all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

6 Who gave himself a **ransom for all**, to be testified in due time.

1 Timothy 2:4-6

[Editor’s note: For the sake of emphasis, I have emboldened certain words in the verses quoted in this paper. I would encourage every reader to carefully consider the verses written, and especially consider the emboldened words.]

The usual gainsaying when contradicting Jesus’ doctrine of “*Whosoever Will*” is something like this: “But doesn’t the Bible also say thus and thus...” Well, the Bible says a lot of things, but proper exegesis is to ***first learn and understand the Doctrine of Christ***, and then understand and apply the Bible in light of Jesus’ doctrine, for they never contradict if taught correctly. We do *not* try to understand Jesus by trying to understand the whole Bible – we understand the whole Bible by first understanding Jesus.

We also learn by doing, by obeying the commandments (doctrine) of our Saviour. Psalm 111:10 says, “a good understanding have all they that do his commandments....” Notice the word of our Saviour in respect to his doctrine:

16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, **but his that sent me.**

17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

John 7:16, 17

1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us **by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Hebrews 1:1-4

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased; **hear ye him.**

Matthew 17:5

And they were astonished at **his doctrine**: for he taught them as **one that had authority**, and not as the scribes.

Mark 1:22

These verses show the magnificence, majesty, and power of Jesus' words over all the words ever spoken. His doctrine is authoritative. His doctrine is from God. His doctrine is what we ought to hear. His doctrine trumps all other doctrine. His doctrine is what we *do* and *teach*.

As New Testament believers, when evaluating any other teaching we may come across, we ought to compare these teachings to what Jesus taught, and *wholly reject* them if they do not agree with what Christ said. If a man teaches a doctrine contrary to what Jesus taught, that man should change, and align himself with the King of kings and Lord of lords.

For the subject of this paper, the doctrines of *limited atonement* and *predestination unto salvation* are doctrines contrary to the Doctrine of Jesus Christ as found in the New Testament. These Calvinistic ideas – that God has chosen some men to be saved over others, or that God predestinated some men to salvation, and others not, or that Jesus blood is insufficient for all to be saved – is wholly contrary to what our Saviour Jesus Christ taught.

Furthermore, teaching that a man does not have free will to obey or disobey God's commandments is contrary to the teaching of the whole Bible – from Adam to Revelation. God has given every man the free will to obey him or not, and to accept or reject the gift of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. *Every person* can choose to obey or disobey the gospel of Jesus Christ.

God is justified in his judgments. The judgment of eternal life or eternal damnation hinges on one important act of obedience: whether a person receives or rejects Jesus Christ as the atonement for their sins.

If God created man with any ability, he created him with a free will. This is so obvious from the beginning it should not be gainsaid. Adam and his wife, of their own free will, disobeyed God and reaped the

recompense. Cain, of his own free will, killed his brother when he saw his works were righteous, and his own were not. Noah, of his own free will, obeyed God and built the ark. Abraham, of his own free will, obeyed God and left his country.

This pattern is shown all through the Bible: obedience because of faith in God's word, or disobedience because of unbelief. Hebrews chapter 11 speaks of the saints who were great examples of faith in God (specifically God's word) – and these were considered great examples of faith because they obeyed God. *Obedience to Jesus' commandments and faith go hand-in-hand.*

Jesus, who is God manifest in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16), taught us a lot of things. He performed many miracles. He showed us the love of God. He became an ensample for the world to follow. However, the reason he came was to provide salvation:

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.

John 3:16

Jesus' Doctrine can be summed up in Luke 19:10:

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save **that which was lost.**

And to prove his doctrine and purpose, Jesus suffered and died on the cross of Golgotha, for you, for me, and for every other person. *To limit or diminish his atoning work is an affront to the greatest act of love, giving, mercy, and righteousness the creation of God has ever seen.*

We ought to consider this doctrine carefully, as it is sealed with the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son. For to limit God's atoning work is to limit God's plan, God's purpose, and God's pleasure.

The Doctrine of Christ

Christ's doctrine is made up of his commandments, and all that he did and taught (Acts 1:1). To interpret any verse in the Bible contrary to Christ's doctrine is improper exegesis. For the Old Testament speaks of Jesus (John 5:39). Every prophet spoke of Jesus (Acts 3:18, 24). All scripture has the same Author – and he is called the Word (John 1:1). God, Jesus, the Holy Ghost, and the word of God, never contradict each other. *The Bible as a whole, and the New Testament in particular, submits itself and gives all glory to the Son and his doctrine.*

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to **do and teach,**

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost **had given commandments unto the apostles** whom he had chosen:

Acts 1:1, 2

But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of **all his prophets,** that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

Acts 3:18

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

23 And it shall come to pass, that **every soul**, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

24 Yea, and **all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after**, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

Acts 3:22-24

43 To him give **all the prophets witness**, that through his name **whosoever** believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

Acts 10:43

39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they **which testify of me**.

40 And ye **will not** come to me, that ye might have life.

John 5:39, 40

[Notice that Jesus said to these Jews, "...ye will not come to me...." showing it was their "will" to not come to Jesus. They refused Jesus Christ of their own free will.]

To best understand the word of God, we must first understand the Doctrine of Christ.

Babes do not Understand the Doctrine of Christ

In Hebrews chapters 5 and 6 we see there are those who have need of milk, and not meat, because they are babes. They have not learned the first principles of the doctrine of Christ. We will review this in detail later, but read this passage:

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation **unto all them that obey him;**

10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the **first principles of the oracles of God;** and are become such as have need of **milk**, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: **for he is a babe.**

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hebrews 6

1 Therefore leaving the **principles of the doctrine of Christ**, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of **faith toward God**,

2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

3 And this will we do, if God permit.

Hebrews 5:9-6:3

Paul here shows six things that are the “first principles of the oracles of God,” also referred to as the principles of the doctrine of Christ. He says that to be teachers of the of these oracles, one needs to know and understand them, and be skillful in the word of righteousness. These first six principles are the basic foundation of Christ’s Doctrine, and once they are learned, we can then move on from them to go to the next level of learning, and then on to perfection. We leave them to “go on to perfection,” but we never contradict them.

These six things are “milk,” and as Peter wrote, we ought to desire the milk of the word that we may grow thereby

1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, **desire** the sincere milk of the word, that ye may **grow thereby**:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

1 Peter 2:1-3

The very first two principles of Christ’s doctrine are ***repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God***. This doctrine is the subject of this paper. If one misunderstands these, he is a babe and needs to be taught again so that he clearly understands. He should not be a teacher without understanding these things. Neither can he go on to perfection and receive the meat of God’s word until he understands these things.

Simply stated, if one teaches a *limited atonement*, he should not be a teacher, but be a student. He needs to be taught these first principles of the doctrine of Christ. By teaching error, a man shows he is a babe that has need of milk. He cannot digest the meat of God’s word.

We can say, then, that if one does not understand the basics of Christ’s Doctrine, he will not be able to understand many other things in the New Testament, referred to as meat. Understanding comes from God, and each layer of understanding rests on truth, not error. God will not add a layer of understanding on a layer of false doctrine. We have to make sure the first principles are correct. We have to make sure that we understand the gospel and the offer of salvation is made available to every person. Until this is clear in a man’s mind, he will not be able to grow in the knowledge of God. He will wander in a “wilderness of false doctrine” until he gets it right. And the error he holds to will not produce good works. He will struggle spiritually in many things. He will tend to be carnal and cause strife and division.

Strong meat belongs to them who by reason of use can discern what is good and evil, what is right and wrong.

Strong meat is not for the carnal, but for the spiritual:

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto **spiritual**, but as unto **carnal**, even as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were **not able to bear it**, neither yet now are ye able.

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you **envying, and strife, and divisions**, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

1 Corinthians 3:1-3

One thing that we should all be unified about is the gospel of salvation and the availability of this free gift to “whosoever” believes.

One should be reminded again that the apostles followed this doctrine of Christ. No writings of the apostles contradict the doctrine of Christ. The doctrine of Christ was what they were commanded to teach and preach. Many, as did our Saviour, lived and died preaching this doctrine.

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

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:

20 Teaching them to **observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you**: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:16-20

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we **keep his commandments**.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 2:3, 4

The apostles were faithful to teach the world to observe *all things* whatsoever Christ commanded. These commandments make up Christ’s doctrine. They were just as faithful to teach the world the *first principles* of the doctrine of Christ: “Repentance from dead works” and “Faith toward God.”

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now **commandeth all men every where to repent**:

Acts 17:30

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance** toward God, and **faith** toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 20:21

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to **repentance**?

Romans 2:4

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to **repentance.**

2 Peter 3:9

For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye **turned** to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

1 Thessalonians 1:9

We, as New Testament believers, have the same obligation to obey God through obedience to the commandments of Christ. This obedience is not optional. Note these passages that speak of the authority of Jesus' doctrine:

And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at **his doctrine:**

Matthew 7:28

22 And they were astonished at **his doctrine:** for he taught them as one that had **authority,** and not as the scribes.

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with **authority commandeth** he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

Mark 1:22, 27

And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him: for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at **his doctrine.**

Mark 11:18

And they were astonished at **his doctrine:** for his **word was with power.**

Luke 4:32

16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, **but his that sent me.**

17 If any man will **do his will, he shall know** of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

John 7:16, 17

But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have **obeyed from the heart** that form of **doctrine** which was delivered you.

Romans 6:17

That we henceforth be **no more children,** tossed to and fro, and carried about **with every wind of doctrine,** by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Ephesians 4:14

As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they **teach no other doctrine,**

1 Timothy 1:3

Take heed unto thyself, and unto **the doctrine;** continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt **both save thyself, and them that hear thee.**

1 Timothy 4:16

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the **words of our Lord Jesus Christ,** and to the **doctrine** which is according to godliness;

4 He is proud, **knowing nothing,** but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: **from such withdraw thyself.**

1 Timothy 6:3-5

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, **exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.**

3 For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine;** but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears **from the truth,** and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist,** make full proof of thy ministry.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Holding fast the **faithful word** as he hath been taught, that he may be able **by sound doctrine** both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Titus 1:9

But speak thou the things which become **sound doctrine:**

Titus 2:1

9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the **doctrine of Christ,** hath not God. He that abideth in the **doctrine of Christ,** he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

2 John 1:9, 10

You can easily see Christ's doctrine is not a small thing, but the entirety of what we do and teach – and all is based and generated from Jesus Christ, the Son of God – what *he* did and taught.

We must always go to the source of this doctrine to know the truth, and to know how to preach the gospel. The doctrine of Christ comes from God the Father and his Son Jesus Christ, and it is sealed with the blood of blessed Saviour.

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.

John 3:16

Beware of teaching anything alien to what the Saviour commanded. We are called, obligated, commanded, and will be held accountable to teach Jesus' doctrine. Do not risk allowing the leaven of false doctrine to enter in.

Yea, let God be true, but every man a liar (Romans 3:4).

The Goodness of God

God is good – *ALL THE TIME!* He is good to the just and the unjust. He blesses those who love him and those who curse him:

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, **Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;**

45 That ye may be the **children of your Father** which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on **the evil and on the good**, and sendeth rain on the **just and on the unjust**.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

Matthew 5:43-46

It is the goodness of God that leads a man to repentance:

1 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; **for thou that judgest doest the same things.**

2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

3 And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the **goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**

5 But after thy **hardness and impenitent heart** treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

8 But unto them that are contentious, and **do not obey the truth**, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

11 For there is **no respect of persons** with God.

Romans 2:1-11

[Notice how Paul condemns those with impenitent hearts (v. 5-8) as do not obey the truth.]

If men being evil know how to give good gifts to their children, how much more does God give the holy Ghost to them that fear him?

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For **every one that asketh receiveth**; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your **Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?**

Matthew 7:7-11

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10 For **every one that asketh receiveth**; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your **heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?**

Luke 11:9-13

God is willing, waiting, and wanting that every person receives salvation.

All Sin is Sin

All sin is sin. All have sinned. Whether murder or lying, fornication or idolatry, whether sodomy or stealing; every person sins and has sinned. Men are sinners by nature, choice, and practice. They are “free *immoral* agents.”

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet **offend in one point, he is guilty of all.**

James 2:10

9 What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that **they are all under sin;**

10 As it is written, **There is none righteous,** no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 **They are all gone out of the way,** they are together become unprofitable; **there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**

Romans 3:9-12

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: **for sin is the transgression of the law.**

1 John 3:4

There is however, only one sin that condemns a person to hell and eternal damnation – that sin is disobedience to obey the gospel of Jesus Christ; that is, to **not** believe on the only begotten Son of God.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**

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

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

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and **the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.**

Romans 3:21-26

[Notice v. 22 “unto all and upon all them that believe...”]

Jesus taught that all are under condemnation. Every man, woman, and child; are born in sin and are *already* condemned to hell. Salvation, and the offer to be removed from that condemnation, only comes through believing on Jesus Christ.

These are the words of our Saviour in John 3:

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

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.

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

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.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

John 3:14-21

Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost – and all are lost (Luke 19:10).

Jesus came to call sinners to repentance – all have sinned (Matthew 9:13; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:32).

Jesus said those that sick need the physician – all are sick (Mark 2:17).

Jesus said, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live – all are dead in trespasses and sin (Ephesians 2:1).

The acceptance or rejection of Jesus Christ determines one's salvation or perdition. All will be judged by Jesus Christ, and an eternity in fire awaits those who do not believe. And if Jesus judges all men based on this one thing, all men need to have the opportunity to choose or reject Jesus Christ.

22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

23 That **all men should honour the Son**, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

John 5:22, 23

God is not a Respector of Persons

God loves *the world* and gave his Son to save *the world*.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

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.

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

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.

John 3:14-16

Jesus died for the sins of *the whole world*:

1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

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

1 John 2:1, 2

Jesus commanded his apostles to go into *all the world* and preach the gospel to *every creature*:

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:14-16

We need to be careful to not limit those whom God loves, for God loves every person *in the world*. He is not a respecter of persons:

34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:**

35 But in **every nation** he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Acts 10:34, 35

8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

9 And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; **neither is there respect of persons with him.**

Ephesians 6:8, 9

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: **and there is no respect of persons.**

Colossians 3:23-25

17 And if ye call on the Father, who **without respect of persons** judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

1 Peter 1:17-25

There is **no** sin that prevents a person from receiving the gift of salvation. And, apart from rejecting his Son Jesus Christ, there is **no** sin that God will not forgive, and does not forgive, through the blood of Jesus Christ. Many people who are saved today were saved from a very sinful life. However, God still offers salvation freely to all.

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 Corinthians 6:9-11

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

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.**

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:5-10

Paul wrote to Timothy that it is a faithful and accepted saying that Jesus Christ came to save sinners. And, that Jesus' longsuffering and mercy was showed in Paul's salvation, even though he was zealously against Christ. Basically saying, that if Jesus would save a chief of sinners, we would save anyone.

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but **I obtained mercy**, because I did it ignorantly **in unbelief.**

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 This is a **faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation**, that Christ Jesus came **into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.**

16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

1 Timothy 1:12-16

We cannot help being *born in sin*, but we can help *dying in our sins*. If we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, we have forgiveness of sins. If we believe not, we die in our sins.

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and **in sin** did my mother conceive me.

Psalm 51:5

For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 3:23

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed **upon all men, for that all have sinned:**

Romans 5:12

21 Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall **die in your sins:** whither I go, ye cannot come.

22 Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come.

23 And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: **ye are of this world;** I am not of this world.

24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: **for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.**

John 8:21-24

[Notice these children of the devil (v. 44) still had opportunity to believe and be saved. V. 30 says that many believed on him.]

All Men Exercise Faith in Something

All men have faith in something. All men “*believe*” something. Faith in the worldly, natural, sense is believing something **with the mind**. We go to school and are taught certain “facts.” Our parents teach us certain values. Every science and discipline require a standard of faith in the rudiments or process. Every religion or philosophy has certain tenets their followers believe.

As mentioned, these are things believed on by the mind: *Who was the first president? What is the specific gravity or a particular element? Drinking alcohol is bad for you. Do good deeds and “Karma” will reward you. This ladder will hold my weight. I can jump over that creek. My wife loves me. Etc., etc.*

But saving faith in the New Testament goes beyond the mind and Jesus is believed on **with the heart**. Furthermore, this faith does not require physical evidence, but is faith put in the word of God that it is true, and Jesus is true. Putting this faith in Jesus Christ and his atoning work changes a man so that he is now a new creature – *born again* – and he is created unto good works. This saving faith produces works pleasing to God. These good works can only be done through the power of God working in the believers. These are the only good works acceptable unto God.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to **every one that believeth**.

5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.

6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

8 But what saith it? **The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart:** that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 **For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;** and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, **Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.**

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

Romans 10:4-13

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.

John 3:16

1 And you hath he quickened, **who were dead in trespasses and sins;**

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also **we all had our conversation in times past** in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for **his great love** wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were **dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

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

9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:1-10

[Notice the universality of whosoever can be saved in the above passages.]

Even so faith, **if it hath not works**, is dead, being alone.

James 2:17

14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, **then were all dead:**

15 And that **he died for all**, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.

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

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

1 **Whosoever** believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous.

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:1-5

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart**, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**

Acts 8:35-37

30 And brought them out, and said, **Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**

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

Acts 16:30, 31

The believer in Jesus Christ is sealed with the Holy Spirit of God. God works in the believer both to desire and do good works, according to God's pleasure.

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.
Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Romans 8:9

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, **ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,**

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto **the praise of his glory.**

Eph 1:13, 14

13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do **of his good pleasure.**

Philippians 2:13

Jesus Doctrine offers a “Whosoever” Salvation

Jesus, the Son of God, said these words:

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.

John 3:16

A cursory review of the word “**whosoever**” in the Old Testament clearly shows that this word applies to every man, woman, and child to whom it was written. The Old Testament law of Moses uses the word “**whosoever**” extensively. Notice the word’s use the first time in Exodus:

Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for **whosoever** eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

Exodus 12:15

This use of the word continues...

And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: **whosoever** toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:

Exodus 19:12

Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Exodus 22:19

The sense of the word continues into the Proverbs:

So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; **whosoever** toucheth her shall not be innocent.

Proverbs 6:29

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and **whosoever** is deceived thereby is not wise.
Proverbs 20:1

The sense of the word “**whosoever**” continues into the prophets:

All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that **whosoever** shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.
Daniel 6:7

And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever** shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.
Joel 2:32

The word “**whosoever**” means anybody and everybody, any one, any person whatever – no exceptions. The word is made up of *who*, *so*, and *ever*.

In the New Testament, Jesus starts using the word “**whosoever**” with the same meaning:

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:19

But I say unto you, That **whosoever** looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.
Matthew 5:28

Therefore **whosoever** heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
Matthew 7:24

Continuing into Mark:

For **whosoever** shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.
Mark 3:35

Continuing into Luke

Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.
Luke 16:18

And, then into John:

That **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:15

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.

John 3:16

Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever** committeth sin is the servant of sin.

John 8:34

And **whosoever** liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

John 11:26

I am come a light into the world, that **whosoever** believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

John 12:46

And then into Acts:

And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever** shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 2:21

To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name **whosoever** believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

Acts 10:43

Then into Romans:

As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and **whosoever** believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Romans 9:33

For **whosoever** shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:13

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

1 John 5:1

Then, there is the use of similar words *every* and *any*, as used in the last book of the Bible, in Revelation, the last chapter:

For I testify unto **every** man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If **any** man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

Revelation 22:18

And there are other similar words using “every”:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one that believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to **every one that believeth**.

Romans 10:4

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into **all the world**, and preach the gospel to **every creature**.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:14-16

If All are Dead, then All can be Made Alive

The universality of sin and death is seen first-hand at every funeral service. The Bible teaches that every person has sinned, and every sinner will die.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and **upon all them that believe**: for there is no difference:

23 **For all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

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

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of **him which believeth in Jesus**.

Romans 3:21-26

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

Romans 6:23

Sin and Death are not respecter of persons – whether rich or poor, old or young, male or female, educated or not – death passes upon every person.

For as in Adam **all die**, even so **in Christ shall all be made alive**.

1 Corinthians 15:22

14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, **that if one died for all, then were all dead:**

15 And that **he died for all**, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

2 Corinthians 5:14, 15

1 And you hath he quickened, who were **dead** in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of **disobedience**:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for **his great love** wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were **dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

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

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:1-10

As death comes to every person, so God reveals himself to every person. God reveals himself in stages to every person. If a person receives and acknowledges God as God reveals himself, God will reveal more of himself – ultimately to a point of salvation. If a person rejects the revelation, or believes a lie, God does reveal himself further until that person repents. God reveals himself in these steps: Creation, Conscience, Commandments, then Christ. When Christ is revealed, that person must accept or else reject him.

Creation

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **hold the truth in unrighteousness;**

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; **for God hath shewed it unto them.**

20 For the invisible things of him from the **creation** of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are **without excuse**:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,
Romans 1:17-22

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
Psalm 19:1

The **heavens declare** his righteousness, and **all the people** see his glory.
Psalm 97:6

I will praise thee; for **I am fearfully and wonderfully made**: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.
Psalm 139:14

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, **the LORD hath made even both of them**.
Proverbs 20:12

Conscience

11 For there is no respect of persons with God.

12 For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

13 (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do **by nature** the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, **their conscience also bearing witness**, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.
Romans 2:11-16

And they which heard it, **being convicted by their own conscience**, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

John 8:9

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; **having their conscience seared with a hot iron**;

1 Timothy 4:1, 2

Commandment

- 1 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?
- 2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the **oracles of God**.
- 3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?
- 4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightiest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.
Romans 3:1-4

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: **but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith** in them that heard it.
Hebrews 4:2

- 25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to **my gospel**, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,
- 26 But now is made manifest, and **by the scriptures** of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to **all nations for the obedience of faith**:
Romans 16:25, 26

- 6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:
- 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
- 11 **So shall my word be** that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.
Isaiah 55:6-11

Christ

- 24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, **if we believe** on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;
- 25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.
Romans 4:24, 25

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to **all men**,
Titus 2:11

Opposing Forces in the Spiritual Realm

There are two opposing forces outside of the unbeliever – God’s power and Satan’s power. Satan keeps men in darkness and blinded, but God is light. God gives us believers power through the Holy Ghost to overcome and be obedient to God, bringing the gospel to the lost. We were all under this darkness until we received the Light. Now, our duty as believers is to show the Light of Jesus to every person so they, too, can be saved.

God’s grace is sufficient for us to do the work. God’s grace is greater than the sin of the lost.

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are **lost**:

4 In whom the god of this world hath **blinded the minds** of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, **to give the light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the **power may be of God**, and not of us.

8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

2 Corinthians 4:3-10

For **we wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
Ephesians 6:12

But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 The same came for a witness, to bear **witness of the Light**, that **all men** through him might believe.

8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

9 That was the true Light, which lighteth **every man** that cometh into the world.

John 1:6-9

14 Ye are the **light** of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 **Let your light so shine before men**, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Mathew 5:14-16

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**.

2 Corinthians 12:9

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, **grace did much more abound**:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might **grace reign through righteousness** unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:20, 21

The Holy Ghost works in the children of God to bear witness of the Light of Jesus Christ, preaching the gospel, working contrary to the forces of Satan, the world, and his own flesh. Meanwhile, Satan and his spirits go out to deceive, blind, and hinder people from believing on the Lord. Satan knows every soul who rejects the Saviour will suffer with him in everlasting fire.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into **everlasting fire**, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matthew 25:41

Therefore, Jesus Christ gave the commandment to his apostles to preach to every creature, to go into all the world, to teach all nations, Jew or Gentile, religious or pagan, bond or free.

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
Mark 16:15

Babes Need to be Taught that God Commands All Men to Repent

Repentance is a turning from sin to God, from idols to Jesus Christ, from unbelief to faith in Jesus Christ.

27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now **commandeth all men every where to repent**:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Acts 17:27-31

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, **but that all should come to repentance.**

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

2 Peter 3:8-10

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18 To open their eyes, and **to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins,** and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Acts 26:15-18

7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how **ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;**

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 1:7-10

There is a difference between repentance unto salvation and repentance of this world.

9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

10 For godly sorrow worketh **repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

2Corinthians 7:9, 10

Babes Need to be Taught that *Whosoever* Can be Saved

In Hebrews chapters 5 and 6, the Apostle Paul shows that some “teachers” are babes and need to be taught correctly what are the “first principles of the doctrine of Christ.” These have need of milk, and not of meat.

The first principles of the doctrine of Jesus Christ are just that – the first principles of Jesus Christ that should be taught. This is the “milk” lesson that is so obvious in the New Testament if one follows the doctrine of Christ. Without Christ’s doctrine, one may fall for a false teaching of Calvinism or such thing.

If one teaches that God has limited salvation to a predestined group, or that not all people *can* be saved; this is not a teacher of the Doctrine of Christ.

Christ’s Doctrine is that which was commanded by Jesus Christ. It is what New Testament believers are obligated before God to obey.

(Read again the section on Whosoever on page 18.)

The Gospel is to be Obeyed

Since God commands all men everywhere to repent, he expects them also to receive his Son Jesus Christ as Saviour.

Not only is the gospel something to believe, but it is also a commandment of God to believe the gospel. The gospel must be obeyed for one to have eternal life. God commands all men to repent. God likewise commands all men to obey the gospel:

And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

Mark 1:15

And this is his **commandment**, That we should **believe** on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

1 John 3:23

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that **obey not the gospel of God?**

1 Peter 4:17

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth** through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 Peter 1:22, 23

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ:

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation **unto all them that obey him;**

10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

Hebrews 5:8-10

But they have not all **obeyed the gospel**. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

Romans 10:16

And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that **obey him**.

Acts 5:32

8 But unto them that are contentious, and **do not obey the truth**, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

Romans 2:8, 9

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the **obedience of faith:**

Romans 16:25, 26

Gospel is to be Preached to Every Creature

And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

Mark 16:15

Jesus' First Principle:

For the Son of man is come to **seek and to save that which was lost.**

Luke 19:10

If Jesus is Lifted Up, He will Draw All Men to Himself

Our duty as believers is to have an answer for the hope that is in us. We are to be witnesses of what Jesus did for us in the experience of salvation. We are to preach the gospel when given the opportunity.

Our duty as ordained preachers is to preach the gospel to every creature, teach all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to observe the commandments of Jesus Christ.

If we lift up Jesus, he will draw all men unto himself.

Lift up Jesus to Draw Men to Jesus

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so **must the Son of man be lifted up:**

15 That **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
John 3:14, 15

Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have **lifted up the Son of man**, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.
John 8:28

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me **draw him:** and I will raise him up at the last day.
John 6:44

32 And I, if I be **lifted up** from the earth, will **draw all men unto me.**

33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.
John 12:32

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if **any man draw back**, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who **draw back unto perdition;** but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.
Hebrews 10:38, 39

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.
James 4:8

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that **all men through him might believe.**
John 1:6, 7

22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:
23 That **all men should honour the Son**, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.
John 5:22, 23

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,
Titus 2:11

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
4 Who will have **all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.
5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
6 Who gave himself a **ransom for all**, to be testified in due time.
1 Timothy 2:3-6

Once Saved, Always Saved

Since the work of salvation is a work of God, and not of ourselves – we simply receive the gift – the New Testament also shows that this gift is never taken back or lost.

We have security in Jesus Christ. Our sins, past, present, and future have been atoned for. We have the promise of salvation and eternal life.

If a person did no works to receive the gift, he needs no works to keep the gift. This gift of eternal life is for eternity.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:
28 And I **give** unto them **eternal** life; and they shall **never** perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.
30 I and my Father are one.
John 10:27-30

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:
15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but **have eternal life**.
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**.
John 3:14-16

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?
33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.
34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, **in all these things we are more than conquerors** through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:32-39

Power of the Gospel

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. We simply preach it.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16

The gospel is to be preached to every creature, and every creature can benefit from salvation.

All are blind – Gospel gives sight

All are lame – Gospel gives a new walk

All are leprous with sin – Gospel makes clean

All are lost – Gospel makes you found

All come short of the glory of God – Gospel gives the righteousness of Christ

The gospel is simply defined in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4:

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ **died for our sins** according to the scriptures;

4 And that **he was buried**, and that **he rose again the third day** according to the scriptures:

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Do not change this gospel. There is a curse pronounced on any person who preaches another gospel:

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, **preach any other gospel** unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be **accursed**.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man **preach any other gospel** unto you than that ye have received, let him be **accursed**.

Galatians 1:8, 9

The Gospel is the means by which a man is regenerated – born again:

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which **by the gospel** is preached unto you.

1 Peter 1:22-25

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:3

Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again**.

John 3:7

Commentary on Ephesians and Romans, and the use of “*Predestinate*,” And Election.

When reading the New Testament, one will find the word *predestinate* used in a few places. I think because of these passages, some “babes” tend to take these passages and make them say something contrary to the doctrine of Christ. As was shown in the entirety of that paper above, the doctrine of Christ is a “whosoever will” salvation.

The core, primary reason, and first principle of the doctrine of Christ is Luke 19:10 – the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost.

The doctrine of Christ trumps all false doctrine. If a person reads a passage and interprets it contrary to Christ’s doctrine, that person is in error; for the Apostles never contradict Christ.

Therefore, in the four places where Paul used the word *predestinate*, we have to make sure this is aligned with and understood according to the Doctrine of Christ.

Paul uses the word twice in Romans and twice in Ephesians. We will take Romans first, as this is simplest and most obvious.

Note the passages:

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:29, 30

Context: Paul is writing in this chapter about the hope we have in suffering (v. 18) as believers, which is the redemption of the body (v. 20-25). He mentions the Holy Spirit helps our infirmities (v. 26). He says that all things work together for those who love God, to them who are called to God's purpose.

Then, to answer the question as to how we can know all things work together for good, he writes how God works everything according to his plan: based on God's foreknowledge, he predestinated us to be confirmed to the image of Jesus Christ, called us accordingly, justified us accordingly, and our glorification is already set in the plan of God.

Foreknowledge: To me it is obvious that God knows everything. He sees and knows everything from beginning to end, and all eternity. He *knows* beforehand who will receive Jesus as Saviour, because he is God. However, simply because God *knows* something beforehand does not mean he causes it. God knows our suffering beforehand, but he does not necessarily cause it. God knew Adam would sin, but he did not cause it. The *foreknowledge* of God is one of his attributes. And based on this foreknowledge, God determines to do certain things. In this case, based on God's foreknowledge that we would be saved, he predestinated us to be confirmed to Jesus image.

If one simply reads Romans 8:29, it says that based on God's foreknowledge, we who are saved, are predestinated to be confirmed to the image of Jesus Christ. Romans 12:2 says,

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

This shows that although we are saved, we can still be confirmed to the world (free will to disobey God), but God's will is that we all are transformed by the renewing of the mind to be more like Jesus. We are to be confirmed to Jesus' image, not the image of this world. We are conformed to the image of Jesus Christ mainly through suffering. This is how we learn obedience (see Hebrews 5:8). I believe this is why we suffer – so we are more like Jesus.

Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with
the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;
1 Peter 4:1

This is one way how all things work together for good to them that love God.

Verse 30, then, must be understood in context. This "predestinate" is not a predestination unto salvation, but what Paul spoke of in the previous verse – a predestination to be confirmed to Jesus' image, based on the foreknowledge of God.

Ephesians 1:4-6 reads:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should
be holy and without blame before him in love:
5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself,
according to the good pleasure of his will,
6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Knowing the Doctrine of Christ and the correct understanding of Romans, when Paul says God "chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy, etc."; he is saying God "chose us in

Jesus Christ” (not outside of Jesus Christ). Those who are saved are *in* Christ, and we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-10).

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

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
Romans 8:1

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
1 Corinthians 15:22

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

So, then, they that are chosen in Christ, should be holy, etc. I was put *in Christ* when I freely received the gift of salvation, and I was *chosen in Christ* to be holy, etc. I was chosen to be holy *in Christ* before the foundation of the world. But Paul does not say, we were *chosen to be put in Christ* before the foundation of the world; as some would read incorrectly.

I am in *in Christ* when I received him as Saviour:

And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and **we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ**. This is the true God, and eternal life.
1 John 5:20

13 Hereby know we that **we dwell in him**, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, **and he in God**.

1 John 4:13-15

23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

24 And he that keepeth his commandments **dwelleth in him**, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

1 John 3:23, 24

9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

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:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
John 1:9-13

Further, Paul writes God “predestinated us unto the adoption of children *by* Jesus Christ...” The adoption is *by* Jesus Christ. Similar to previous, whatever our status, although based on *God’s foreknowledge* that we would receive Jesus Christ as Saviour, is always because we are *in* Christ or *by* Christ. God made us accepted *in* the beloved.

Lastly, Ephesians 1:10-12 reads:

10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things **in Christ**, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:
11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:
12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

Similarly, and following the context, Paul says God will gather all things together *in* Christ, and these that are *in* Christ have an inheritance. All this is predestinated by God, so it will come to pass. But this passage does not contradict that *whosoever* can be saved. *Whosoever* can still believe. *Whosoever* can still be in Christ through faith.

In summary, then, you see these four places are completely aligned with Christ’s doctrine of whosoever can be saved. If one sets apart these four verses to teach contrary to Christ’s doctrine, this is improper exegesis of the word of God. God is not a respecter of persons, neither will false teachers go unpunished.

Some Thoughts on Election

The word *elect* in the New Testament as applied to believers seems to me to indicate more the *state* of being saved and work God has called his child to, rather than the *work* of salvation. When one is saved, he is saved *unto* good works (Ephesians 2:10). God knows his children, their strengths and weaknesses, their abilities; and he gives them particular spiritual gifts by the Holy Ghost. These all work together for a particular *purpose* God has for each of his children.

However, it is incumbent upon each believer to live, labor, and learn what God’s will is for his life. First, it is obedience to the doctrine of Christ, then comes a variety of callings that a man must submit to and obey. As a man is faithful and obedient, he can press toward the mark of the high calling of Jesus Christ.

All believers are being confirmed to the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29); but the path and milestones each one must take varies depending on a variety of things: time, place, maturity, abilities, temperament, sanctification, resources, etc. But every child of God has a purpose and a calling to fulfill.

Each child of God has an *election* that he must give diligence to, in order to fulfill.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence** to make your calling and election sure:
for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:
2 Peter 1:10

This verse obviously cannot mean one should “*give diligence to make your salvation sure,*” because we know salvation is not by works. I submit, rather, that Peter says one should “*give diligence to make sure you fulfill the course God has set for you.*”

Similarly, Paul recognized his calling and election when he said this in respect to his *course*:

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have **finished my course**, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:6

I would contend Paul indeed gave diligence to make his calling and election sure.

As one contemplates this understanding of election, this verse offers no trouble:

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:2

We have an election (or, are elect) because we have been sanctified by the Spirit and Jesus Christ. We have an election (or are elect), because we received Jesus Christ as our Saviour. And, because God knows all things, he knew us even before we were born.

Conclusion

My hope with this little study is that every reader would be reminded, edified, and instructed in the doctrine of Christ as it applies to the availability of salvation to *whosoever*.

From time to time the false doctrine of predestination or limited atonement may present itself, but one can be well-prepared with the doctrine of Christ to teach the right way.

God Bless.

N.

**Some Common Sense Arguments
Why God Does Not Predestinate people to Salvation**

- 1 It is contrary to the Doctrine of Christ, who came so that whosoever could be saved (Luke 19:10).
- 2 It is contrary to God's love, who so loved the world he gave his only begotten Son (John 3;16)
- 3 Jesus died for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2)
- 4 It is obvious in scripture and in personal living that every person has a free will to either obey or disobey God.
- 5 Jesus commanded his disciple to preach the Gospel to every creature. This makes no sense if only some can be saved.
- 6 The struggle for all creation has been man's will being set at enmity with God's will.
- 7 Only love offered by a free will is acceptable unto God.
- 8 God made man in his image, and with that comes free will.
- 9 If man has no free will, there is no point to preach holiness and sanctification – men would either do it or not.
- 10 Sin is the transgression of the Law. Men choose to sin. If God made man without a free will, why would he make them all sinners? This is contrary to God's nature – God does not sin.
- 11 If some are predestinated to salvation, the others must be predestinated to hell. If that is the case, why do we have a life to live on this earth? Why were we created.
- 12 We were created for God's pleasure (Revelation 4:11). But God takes no pleasure in the unrighteous. Ezekiel 33:11: "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"
- 13 The just live by faith, and faith pleases God. Hebrews 10:38: Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him."
- 14 Paul said in Acts 17:30, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:"
- 15 Jesus invited all to come in Matthew 11:28: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
- 16 Some would have repented if given the opportunity. Matthew 11:21 "Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes."
- 17 Without freewill, God has no reason to be longsuffering: 2 Peter 3:9: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

18 If Jesus will judge all men based on whether they accept or reject his salvation, all men have the choice to reject or accept his salvation (John 5:22, 23).

19

20