

## THE AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER

### Part XI

*Luke 10:19-20*

Introduction: If we are to have exponential growth in the Lord, the Bible gives us the paragon path to follow. Since faith "comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17), our rudimentary means of developing spiritually is to become knowledgeable of the Word of God and to make personal application of what we learn. The Bible reveals that the process to accomplish this is systematically, "line upon line." Having a sequacious spirit will aid us in our quest to find maturity in Christ.

#### I. Planks in the platform of salvation

A. We have already dealt with pardon, justification, regeneration, assurance, and sanctification.

1. Adoption. This is when we are placed as sons into the family of God. We should note that Jesus is the firstborn among a vast family of brethren. Romans 8:29. The Old Testament believers never were privileged to experience the assurance of sonship as do the New Testament believers.
2. Glorification. This means to esteem glorious, honorable, or to magnify. Glorification is the final work of redemption in the perfected saints. Man fell from the glory of God when he sinned under the Edenic covenant. Romans 3:23. The new covenant makes provision for the believer to go from justification to glorification. Romans 8:17-30. The old covenant believers saw in small measures the glory of God in His majesty and brightness. The new covenant brings the believer into the fullness of the glory of God. John 17:22-24; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:18.

#### II. The blessing of the Gospel of the kingdom

A. Christ not only came to bring salvation, but also to bring the good news of the kingdom of God. This involved the preaching and teaching ministry of Christ. The preaching and teaching of Jesus were an integral part of the words of the new covenant, which is the basis upon which the Gospel of the kingdom is built. Matthew 4:23-25, 9:35, 10:32-42, 24:14.

1. The church is the instrument to continue the work that Jesus began "*to do and teach.*" Acts 1:1; Mark 16:15-20.
2. The Gospel of the kingdom must be preached into all the world for a witness to all nations before the end comes. Matthew 28:18-20.
  - a. The church in the book of Acts preached and demonstrated that kingdom. By the preaching and reception of the Gospel, people are born into the kingdom of God. When souls are added to the kingdom of God, they are translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light. They are then given citizenship into the heavenly kingdom to rule and reign with Him throughout all of eternity. Colossians 1:13-14.

#### III. Blessing on the gentiles

A. The origin of the nations was seen in the Noachic covenant. The blessing of all the nations was promised in the Abrahamic covenant. But under the Mosaic covenant, the gentile nations were excluded from blessing until the Messiah would come. In the beginning of His ministry, Christ forbade His disciples to go to the gentiles, but rather to focus on the lost sheep of Israel. Matthew 10:1-8. This was to give the Jews the first opportunity to receive the Messiah. However, as the unbelief and hardness of the Jews' hearts were exposed, Christ began to minister to the gentiles, illustrating His intention to open the door of faith to the gentiles in due time. John 1:11-12; Matthew 8:5-11, 15:21-28; Acts 14:27.

B. After His death and resurrection, but before His ascension, Christ commissioned His disciples to take the gospel to all the nations. Matthew 28:18-20. This was to fulfill the mystery of the gentiles coming into Messianic blessing and becoming one body in Christ with believing Jews. This mystery was predicted by the Old Testament prophets. Deuteronomy 32:43; Psalm 117:1; Isaiah 11:1-10; Ephesians 2:11-22, 3:1-12.

Conclusion: You and I are individual members of the body of Christ, and as such, we are to carry out the will of God on earth. Our clear mandate from the Lord is to see that this Gospel of the kingdom is preached to all the world, and then shall the end come. Matthew 24:14, 28:18-20.