

## LESSON SIX

# MAN'S NEED

### A. MAN'S CONDITION OUTSIDE OF CHRIST.

Man is a very needy creature. Outside of Jesus Christ he is depraved, wicked, and without spiritual and eternal life. The following Scriptures may describe his condition outside of Jesus:

1. He is estranged from the womb. *"The wicked are estranged from the womb" (Psalm 58:3).*
2. He is shapen in iniquity. *"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity" (Psalm 51:5).*
3. His heart is desperately wicked. *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9).*
4. Satan controls him. *"...According to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2).*
5. The law of sin and death continually works in his members. *"...Bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:23).*
6. He is under a curse. *"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse" (Galatians 3:10).*
7. His understanding is darkened. *"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God" (Ephesians 4:18).*
8. Every imagination is evil constantly. *"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5).*
9. He is filled with all unrighteousness. *"Being filled with all unrighteousness..." (Romans 1:29).*
10. He is corrupt from head to foot. *"From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores" (Isaiah 1:6).*
11. He is dead in trespasses and sins. *"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1).*

### B. MAN'S HOPELESS CONDITION OUTSIDE OF CHRIST.

Scriptural Reference:

*"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil" (Jeremiah 13:23).*

Man, being dead in sins and trespasses, cannot save himself any more than what Lazarus, bound in grave clothes, and buried for four days, could have saved himself. As far as Lazarus himself was concerned, his condition was hopeless, and eternally lost. If man is to be saved at all he must be saved by a Source outside of himself. Jesus Christ is man's one and only hope of salvation.

Man is completely helpless to change his race and color of his skin, man's race is fixed at birth. If he was born an Indian, he will be an Indian all his life. If he was born an African, he will be an African all his life. He is wholly unable to change this. Likewise, a man is born a sinner; he cannot do a thing to change this except to come to Jesus Christ.

If any man could have saved himself, then the greatest blunder of all ages was the coming of Christ of be our Saviour. If one man could have saved himself, then everyone could have done the same.

### C. MAN'S ENTIRE BEING NEEDED SALVATION.

Since man's entire being, body, soul and spirit, were affected by the fall and the original sin, his entire being needed to be saved.

Man is body, soul and spirit.

It is not difficult to define the body for this is the physical body in which the real man dwells. The body is sometimes spoken of as being: (a) a house; (b) a temple; and (c) a vessel.

Although an understanding of the body is readily distinguished from that of the soul and spirit, yet the body is vitally connected with soul and spirit. The welfare of the body definitely affects the welfare of soul and spirit. This can be seen when we read Paul's exhortation to the Roman church: *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1).*

It is more difficult to understand the meaning of soul and spirit. It is difficult to even understand the difference between soul and spirit, but yet they are different as Scripture shows. *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit..." (Hebrews 4:12).*

By comparing the following Scriptures it is made clear that the meaning of "soul" is "himself." *"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).* *"For what is a man advantaged if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?" (Luke 9:25).*

A definition of body, soul and spirit may be made as follows:

**SPIRIT:** The part of man by which he is capable of God-consciousness and communion with God.

**SOUL:** The part of man by which he is capable of self-consciousness.

**BODY:** The part of man, by which he is capable through his senses to have world-consciousness or physical-consciousness.

A further understanding of the soul of man may be had if we study the story of creation. In this is seen that man became a living soul. Therefore it is incorrect to say that man HAS a soul. The correct understanding is that man IS a soul. *"And the Lord God formed a man of the dust*

*of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7).*

Man is a very complex being. He is a (a) physical being; (b) spiritual being; (c) intellectual being; (d) emotional being; and (e) social being.

It must be noted that every part of man fell into sin and needed to be redeemed. The Salvation provided on Calvary's Cross provides Salvation for the whole man - for his entire being.

#### **D. WHAT GOD HAD TO DO IN SALVATION.**

In providing salvation for sinful man there were a number of things he had to accomplish among which were:

1. To handle the sin problem in a way that is consistent with His justice and appeasing His wrath;
2. To make man holy without taking away his free will moral agency;
3. To bridge the breach between God and man and restore the lost fellowship.

All this God succeeded in doing at Calvary.

LESSON SIX

SELF HELP TEST

A. Define clearly the following:

1. Spirit: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Soul: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Body: \_\_\_\_\_

B. What did God have to accomplish in providing salvation for sinful man?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

C. Quote one Scripture with reference to prove man's hopeless condition outside of Jesus Christ.

D. Write an explanation of the meaning of Ephesians 2:1.