**Faith That Brings Life!**

**Luke 7:1-17**

**James 2:5** *Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?*

1. **Two necessary requirements** for any of us to experience what it means to be rich in the eyes of God:
2. Saving Faith…which brings with it…
3. Eternal life!
4. **We deserve neither** and **both are 100% gifts** **from God** and God alone.
5. No human effort can make either a reality.
6. Salvation and the gift of eternal life are entirely **the work of God**.
7. What does **true biblical faith** look like? **Luke 7:1-10**
8. What saving faith is not:
9. Notice what these religious men said to Jesus:

**Verses 4-5:** “This man **deserves** to have you to this, because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.”

1. What is the problem with this kind of thinking?

* It’s false and it brings with it a false sense of eternal security.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—****not by works****, so that no one can boast*.

* We make God our debtor.

**Romans 4:4** *Now when a man* ***works****, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an* ***obligation****.*

1. What saving faith is?
2. One who sees Jesus for He really is: LORD!
3. He trusts the Word of God!
4. God grants him the gift of saving faith!

**James 4:10** ***Humble*** *yourselves before the lord, and He will lift you up.*

**Isaiah 57:15** For this is what the high and exalted One says— he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is **contrite** and **lowly in spirit**, to revive the **spirit of the lowly** and to revive the **heart of the contrite**.

1. Jesus is the only One who can **impart life**. **Luke 7:11-17**

**John 1:4** In him was life and that life was the light of men.

**John 3:16** *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have* ***eternal life***.

**John 10:10** *I came that they may have* ***life*** *and have it* ***abundantly***.

1. What do we learn from this incredible true story and from God’s Word? **FIVE TRUTHS:**
2. Outside of Christ, we are all dead men!
3. As the Father gives life, so does the Son!
4. Eternal life is imparted to men by God’s Word!
5. Eternal life is a present tense possession!
6. Once saved, always saved!
7. Commentary:
8. We are all **DEAD MEN WALKING**, without saving faith in Christ and Christ alone.

**Ephesians 2:1-6** *As for you, you were* ***DEAD*** *in your trespasses and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of the world and of the ruler of the kingdom of air, the spirit who is not at work in those who are disobedient. All of us lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love us, God, who is rich in mercy,* ***made us alive*** *with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus…*

1. God sent His Son into the world—**to give life** to those whom God has chosen before the foundations of the earth.

**John 5:21** *For just as the Father raises the dead and* ***gives life*** *to them, even* ***so the Son gives life******to whom he is pleased*** *to give it.*

1. Eternal life truly is **imparted** to men by **God’s Word**!

**Romans 10:17** *Consequently, faith come from* ***hearing*** *the message, and the message is heard through* ***the word of Christ****.*

**Revelation 2:7** *He who has an ear, let* ***him hear*** *what* ***the Spirit says*** *to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the* ***tree of life*** *which is in the paradise of God!*

1. Eterna life is a **present tense** possession!

**John 5:24** *I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me* ***has*** *eternal life and will not be condemned; he* ***has crossed over*** *from death to life.*

1. Believers should enjoy an abundant life now!

**Isaiah 40:28-31** *The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.*

*He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.*

*He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.*

*Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;*

*But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.*

*They will soar on wings of eagles; they will run and not grow weary,*

*they will walk and not be faint*