

BIBLE STUDY NOTE

VOLUME 1, WEEK 4



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All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated.

MAKING THE MOST OF THIS STUDY NOTE:

- **Be open to learn.**
- **Get your study materials: Book, Bible, Pen and Note.**
- **Make your time to study and understand.**
- **If you have any questions, contact the author with the details in the previous page.**

STUDY TEXT:

John 3:16

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.

WHY THIS STUDY?

- To lead the individual to be thankful for the grace of God.
- To be assured of eternal life.

STUDY

I remember having a conversation with a student, 15 or 16 years old and asking him what his favorite scripture was. He told me a particular one, then I asked him to quote it. But guess what? He couldn't! So I said, "That's not your favorite." I went further to suggest to him John 3:16.

He quoted it without any hassle! After that I asked him, "Do you believe that Jesus died and rose again for you?" He said he believes. So I asked, "If Jesus comes right now, are you sure of heaven?" He said no! I was surprised, but not too surprised. If you asked me that 5 years earlier, I would have said the same thing! So I told him, "let's look at the text we just read again:"

John 3:16

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.**

I requested he read the highlighted portion above again and again. Then I asked again, "Do you believe that Jesus died and rose again for you?" He said he believes. Then I said, "From what we just read, what happens to those who believe?" He said they will not perish, but have everlasting life. So I asked, "Would that apply to you?" He said yes with a smile!

So from the highlighted portion of John 3:16 above, we see that it is those who **believe** that will not perish! And it is Jesus that made the statement! So my question to you is, do you trust Him? If you do and he says, “If you believe, you will not perish” and you believe, then you will not perish, full stop! There is this song I hope you know. It goes thus:

He has promised, he will never fail (3x)

His faithfulness is forevermore (2x)

Friend, rest in those words! He has promised, he will NEVER fail! His faithfulness is forevermore! Praise Jesus! These are songs to sing that will remind us of his faithfulness!

I took it a step further by showing him **Ephesians 2:4-6:**

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:**

The believer has been quickened together with Christ and he is seated together in HEAVENLY PLACES in Christ! He is seated in a place of rest and authority in Christ. That is his true location in Christ!

So I asked him, “From the text we just read, where is Jesus?” He said in heaven. Then I asked, “Where is the believer?” He said, he is seated in Christ! So I asked, “Where?” He said, in heaven. So I said, “From all we have seen, where is the believer?” He responded, in heaven with a smile! I still asked, “Can Christ be unseated?” He said, no way! So I said, “Since the believer is in Christ, and Christ can’t be unseated from heaven, can the believer be unseated from heaven?” He said, no way with a broader smile! When he was settled on this knowledge, in less than 5 minutes he got filled with the spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Friends, that we can ever think of **eternal life** is simply the Grace of God shown to us. It is God showing us love! What does Grace mean? It means it is undeserved. You don’t and can’t earn it! So if you will ever see any man have eternal life, it will be the gift of God.

Romans 6:23

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

You have heard it said before with the emphasis on ‘the wages of sin is death.’ But it will be mischievous to stop there. The statement continues. Yes, the wages of sin is death...**BUT!** When you see a ‘but’ it is an interjection telling you I am not done talking and what is about to be said will negate what had just been stated. So yes I have told you what brings death, now let me tell you what brings life!

So yes, it's true, the wages of sin is death. BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ! ONLY in Jesus Christ is eternal life available. It is a gift available ONLY in Christ Jesus. This verse tells us that, death is what we deserved, BUT instead we got eternal life for free! Praise Jesus! Man deserved to die because of sin, BUT Jesus came, took our place, paid the wages for sin which is death and says eternal life is now available in Him by simply believing!

Friend, it is a gift! It is a gift Pastor; it is a gift Bishop; it is a gift Apostle; it is a gift Prophet; it is a gift Evangelist; it is a gift Elder; it is a gift Deacon; it is a gift Sister; it is a gift Brother! When it comes to eternal life, there is no boasting! It's all thanksgiving. No one qualifies for eternal life more than the other. It is a gift. You are either a male or a female. **You either have eternal life as a gift or you don't have it.** Eternal life is a gift. We have been dashed! And we are thankful for it. When we see Jesus, we will truly know that we are spending eternity with Him ONLY by grace.

John 10:28-29

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.

If you observe, the word 'man' is in italics in the verses above meaning it was not in the original writing. The translators of the King James Version put it there. So reading without the word man, it would imply that no one or nothing can remove the believer from God's hand. God guarantees eternal life and maintains the salvation he has given us. Our Father is greater than all; nothing can pluck us out of his hands. He has given eternal life to all who believe, and we shall never perish! Praise Jesus!

Romans 8:38-39

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.

What an assurance! Nothing can separate a child of God from the Father's love. We are secure in him forever!

1 Corinthians 1:7-9

7 So that ye come behind in no gift; **waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:**

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

9 *God is faithful*, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

The believer is not afraid of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who else is He coming for? He is waiting for the coming of our Lord! And Paul says that our Lord Jesus Christ confirms us to the end blameless! And he attributes it to the faithfulness of God, not our inputs. God is faithful! We are confirmed to the end without blame. Hallelujah!

Philippians 1:6

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

When we study the scriptures, **we are not to read our thoughts to what is written, we are to understand what is written.** A good Bible student would ask, what is Paul confident of? What good work has been begun that will be performed until the day of Jesus Christ? The previous verse will help us, “For **your fellowship in the gospel** from the first day until now;” (Philippians 1:5).

Paul was talking about their fellowship in the gospel from the first day till that moment. So what he is confident about; the good work that will be performed until the day of Jesus Christ will be **specific** to the discussion which is the gospel. So Paul is saying that he is confident of their fellowship in the gospel not just for now, but until the day of Jesus Christ.

Paul is in prison at the time, but writes to the Church at Philippi that he is confident; he is sure that they are kept till Jesus returns. He is not there with them; he doesn't know what they are doing in secret, but he says he is confident that they are kept till Jesus returns. Why so sure? Because they have been sealed with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit who indwells **every believer** is the assurance for the believer.

Notice I didn't say, some believers, I said every believer! Now, every believer ought to speak in tongues. But I don't refer to speaking with tongues here. I refer to the indwelling of the Spirit of God in **every believer**. Anyone who has believed the gospel is sealed with the Holy Spirit (See Ephesians 1:13-14). And the Holy Spirit in us assures us that we are God's possession; God's own forever! (We will address the Promised Spirit in a future study).

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

That word 'conversation' in the Greek implies community; citizenship. Our community; our home; our citizenship is in heaven! We are simply ambassadors on earth getting more people to join us! Did you observe the phrase "from whence also we look?" Where is the whence? Heaven! So we are not trying to 'make heaven', we are from there! Glory! Heaven is our home.

1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which **according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

4 **To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,**

5 **Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

By the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, the believer has been begotten; he is born of God. The believer has an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, that doesn't fade away **RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR HIM!** Did you see that? Reserved in heaven for you! Glory! The believer is kept by the power of God through faith, not his own power—the power of God!

Jude 24-25

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

This is like cheating! He keeps us from falling and presents us before His presence without fault and with great joy! Think about it: The same person who keeps you, presents you faultless before His presence and He does it with great joy! Praise Jesus! Sister, Brother, this is the love of God; this is the grace of God. He will keep you and present you faultless as if you did it! Give thanks to Him. He loves us!

Papa Kenneth E. Hagin said that *some of* the songs we have sang as believers has done much harm to our faith! How true! **The believer shouldn't sing:**

Eternal, eternal life (2x).

***I WANT TO SEE ETERNAL LIFE, GOD SAVE MY SOUL
(2x)***

The believer doesn't need to be saved, He is already saved. He is not just hoping for eternal life, he is sure of eternal life! He has eternal life in his spirit right now and when Jesus comes again he is sure he will live forever with Him! Praise Jesus!

Or

Oh when the saints (2x),

Oh WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

Oh LORD I WANT TO BE IN THE NUMBER

Oh when the saints go marching in!

The believer is a saint so he should not be separating himself from saints. The believer is not looking to be in the number, he is already in the number! So the next time someone asks you, "are you in the number?" Your reply is, "yes I am in the number, saved by grace!" Hallelujah! Glory to God!

Friend, if you have believed, live rest assured that He who has begun a good work in us will complete it. That's grace; that is the kindness of God; that's the love of God. 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)**. This is what we have in Christ Jesus—eternal life! You are blessed. God loves you. Yes, you!

Affirmations

I have believed the Gospel, therefore I am saved.

I am saved by grace through faith.

Because I have believed, I will not perish.

I have eternal life; I will live forever in Christ!

OUR MISSION

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