

Wednesday, May 22, 2013
Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist, Chicago

TOPIC: Why does it seem like some are saved and others lost?

HYMNS 33 120 460

THE BIBLE (The Message Bible)

I Chronicles 16

35"Save us, Savior God, round us up and get us out of these godless places, So we can give thanks to your holy Name, and bask in your life of praise."

Jonah 1

1One day long ago, God's Word came to Jonah, Amittai's son:

2"Up on your feet and on your way to the big city of Nineveh! Preach to them. They're in a bad way and I can't ignore it any longer."

3But Jonah got up and went the other direction to Tarshish, running away from God. He went down to the port of Joppa and found a ship headed for Tarshish. He paid the fare and went on board, joining those going to Tarshish - as far away from God as he could get.

4But God sent a huge storm at sea, the waves towering.

5The sailors were terrified. They called out in desperation to their gods. They threw everything they were carrying overboard to lighten the ship. Meanwhile, Jonah had gone down into the hold of the ship to take a nap. He was sound asleep.

6The captain came to him and said, "What's this? Sleeping! Get up! Pray to your god! Maybe your god will see we're in trouble and rescue us."

7Then the sailors said to one another, "Let's get to the bottom of this. Let's draw straws to identify the culprit on this ship who's responsible for this disaster." So they drew straws. Jonah got the short straw.

8Then they grilled him: "Confess. Why this disaster? What is your work? Where do you come from? What country? What family?"

9He told them, "I'm a Hebrew. I worship God, the God of heaven who made sea and land."

10At that, the men were frightened, really frightened, and said, "What on earth have you done!" As Jonah talked, the sailors realized that he was running away from God.

11They said to him, "What are we going to do with you - to get rid of this storm?" By this time the sea was wild, totally out of control.

12Jonah said, "Throw me overboard, into the sea. Then the storm will stop. It's all my fault. I'm the cause of the storm. Get rid of me and you'll get rid of the storm."

13But no. The men tried rowing back to shore. They made no headway. The storm only got worse and worse, wild and raging.

14Then they prayed to God, "O God! Don't let us drown because of this man's life, and don't blame us for his death. You are God. Do what you think is best."

15They took Jonah and threw him overboard. Immediately the sea was quieted down.

16The sailors were impressed, no longer terrified by the sea, but in awe of God. They worshiped God, offered a sacrifice, and made vows.

17Then God assigned a huge fish to swallow Jonah. Jonah was in the fish's belly three days and nights.

Jonah 2

1Then Jonah prayed to his God from the belly of the fish.

'I've been thrown away, thrown out, out of your sight. I'll never again lay eyes on your Holy Temple.'

5 Ocean gripped me by the throat. The ancient Abyss grabbed me and held tight. My head was all tangled in seaweed

6 at the bottom of the sea where the mountains take root. I was as far down as a body can go, and the gates were slamming shut behind me forever - Yet you pulled me up from that grave alive, O God, my God!

7 When my life was slipping away, I remembered God,

9 But I'm worshipping you, God, calling out in thanksgiving! And I'll do what I promised I'd do! Salvation belongs to God!"

10

Then God spoke to the fish, and it vomited up Jonah on the seashore.

Jonah 3

1 Next, God spoke to Jonah a second time:

2 "Up on your feet and on your way to the big city of Nineveh! Preach to them. They're in a bad way and I can't ignore it any longer."

3 This time Jonah started off straight for Nineveh, obeying God's orders to the letter.

4 Jonah entered the city, went one day's walk and preached, "In forty days Nineveh will be smashed."

5 The people of Nineveh listened, and trusted God. They proclaimed a citywide fast and dressed in burlap to show their repentance. Everyone did it - rich and poor, famous and obscure, leaders and followers.

6 When the message reached the king of Nineveh, he got up off his throne, threw down his royal robes, dressed in burlap, and sat down in the dirt.

7 Then he issued a public proclamation throughout Nineveh,

8 Everyone must turn around, turn back from an evil life and the violent ways that stain their hands.

10 God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He did change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn't do.

Jonah 4

1 Jonah was furious. He lost his temper.

2 He yelled at God, "God! I knew it - when I was back home, I knew this was going to happen! That's why I ran off to Tarshish! I knew you were sheer grace and mercy, not easily angered, rich in love, and ready at the drop of a hat to turn your plans of punishment into a program of forgiveness!"

3 "So, God, if you won't kill them, kill me! I'm better off dead!"

4 God said, "What do you have to be angry about?"

5 But Jonah just left. He went out of the city to the east and sat down in a sulk.

Ps 106

44 ... when God saw the trouble they were in and heard their cries for help,

45 He remembered his Covenant with them, and, immense with love, took them by the hand.

46 He poured out his mercy on them...

SCIENCE AND HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES

By Mary Baker Eddy

SH 12:27-29, 31-13:4

Does Deity interpose in behalf of one worshipper, and not help another who offers the same measure of Love impartial and universal prayer? In divine Science, where prayers are mental, *all* may avail themselves of God as "a very present help in trouble. Love is impartial and universal in its adaptation and bestowals. It is the open fount which cries, "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters."

SH 164:13-16

Much yet remains to be said and done before all mankind is saved and all the mental microbes of sin and all diseased thought-germs are exterminated.

SH 494:11-19

It is not well to imagine that Jesus demonstrated the divine power to heal only for a number or for a limited period of time, since to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good. The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love. Jesus demonstrated the inability of corporeality, as well as the infinite ability of Spirit, thus helping erring human sense to flee from its own and seek safety in divine Science.

SH 291:12-18

Universal salvation rests on progression and probation, and is unattainable without them. Heaven is not a locality, but a divine state of Mind in which all the manifestations of Mind are harmonious and immortal, because sin is not there and man is found having no righteousness of his own, but in possession of "the mind of the Lord," as the Scripture says.

SH 37:22-25

It is possible, — yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman, — to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness.

SH 37:32-38:9

Why has this Christian demand so little inspiration to stir mankind to Christian effort? Because men are assured that this command was intended only for a particular period and for a select number of followers. This teaching is even more pernicious than the old doctrine of foreordination, — the election of a few to be saved, while the rest are damned; and so it will be considered, when the lethargy of mortals, produced by man-made doctrines, is broken by the demands of divine Science.

SH 188:11-15

Mortal existence is a dream of pain and pleasure in matter, a dream of sin, sickness, and death; and it is like the dream we have in sleep, in which every one recognizes his condition to be wholly a state of mind.

SH 427:13-25, 29-30

Death is but another phase of the dream that existence can be material. Nothing can interfere with the harmony of being nor end the existence of man in Science. Man is the same after as before a bone is broken or the body guillotined. The great difficulty lies in ignorance of what God is. God, Life, Truth, and Love make man undying. Immortal Mind, governing all, must be acknowledged as supreme in the physical realm, so-called, as well as in the spiritual. The dream of death must be mastered by Mind here or hereafter.

SH 494:19-24

Reason, rightly directed, serves to correct the errors of corporeal sense; but sin, sickness, and death will seem real (even as the experiences of the sleeping dream seem real) until the Science of man's eternal harmony breaks their illusion with the unbroken reality of scientific being.

SH 218:32-219:2

When we wake to the truth of being, all disease, pain, weakness, weariness, sorrow, sin, death, will be unknown, and the mortal dream will forever cease.

SH 593:20-22

SALVATION. Life, Truth, and Love understood and demonstrated as supreme over all; sin, sickness, and death destroyed.

SH 150:18-30

The science (so-called) of physics would have one believe that both matter and mind are subject to disease, and that, too, in spite of the individual's protest and contrary to the law of divine Mind. This human view infringes man's free moral agency; and it is as evidently erroneous to the author, and will be to all others at some future day, as the practically rejected doctrine of the

predestination of souls to damnation or salvation.

SH 13:2-3

Love is impartial and universal in its adaptation and bestowals.

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