

The Straight and Narrow Way

[32]

-And the Sin God Cannot Forgive-

**Remember to Pray for Wisdom Before You Begin*

- 1.) How popular is the genuine Christian path that leads to eternal life and everlasting rewards? **Matthew 7:13** Enter ye in at the _____ gate: for _____ is the gate, and _____ is the way, that leadeth to _____, and _____ there be which go in thereat: **14** Because strait is the gate, and _____ is the way, which leadeth unto _____, and _____ there be that find it. **Luke 13:23** Then said one unto him, Lord, are there _____ that be _____? And he said unto them, **24** _____ to enter in at the strait gate: for _____, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall _____ be able. **NOTE: Natural, normal humanity never follows the way of self-denial and unselfish love! This is why Jesus emphatically said anyone who wants to follow Him and choose the way to eternal life MUST BE BORN-AGAIN! The natural man is not subject to the law of God and indeed never can be! We must have an entirely new nature and have God's Spirit continually abiding in us! Nobody is going to just coast into heaven.**

- 2.) Is there going to be a day of reckoning coming for any who have not on them the garment of Christ's righteousness? **Matthew 22:11** And when the _____ came in to see the _____, he saw there a man which had _____ on a _____ garment: **12** And he saith unto him, _____, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was _____. **13** Then said the king to the servants, _____ him hand and foot, and take him _____, and cast him into outer _____; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. **14** For _____ are called, but few are _____. **NOTE: May we diligently learn what the conditions are to eternal life and choose "the Way, the Truth and the Life."**

- 3.) Jesus never wasted any words, yet sometimes He said some very strong things that many people would categorize as radical! What did Jesus mean by these strong seemingly negative statements below? **Matthew 10:34** Think _____ that I am come to send _____ on earth: I came _____ to send peace, but a _____. **35** For I am come to set a man at _____ against his father, and the _____ against her _____, and the daughter-in-law _____ her mother-in-law. **36** And a man's _____ shall be they of his own _____. **NOTE: Jesus knew we lived in a world that is naturally hostile to the principles of God. Whenever an individual becomes a new creature in Christ, he or she will face opposition and resistance! We see this all through the entirety of the Bible since the time of Cain killing his brother Abel, to Stephen and all the apostles who underwent persecution. Jesus is the "Prince of Peace" as Isaiah 9:6 says, but at the same time as long as we are in this world of sin, and follow His principles -the forces of darkness will war against us! Unfortunately, these scenarios can happen even within family relationships.**

4.) What other “radical” statements did Jesus make and what do they really mean? Matthew

5:29 And if thy right _____ offend thee, _____ it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy _____ should perish, and not that thy _____ body should be cast into _____. **30** And if thy right _____ offend thee, _____ it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should _____, and not that thy whole body should be cast into _____. **NOTE: Did Jesus literally expect people to physically maim themselves for reason of one of their members causing that person to sin? Basically, what Jesus wants us to do is to completely remove whatever darling sin that has the tendency to bring us down. Sin is very offensive in God’s sight and unless decidedly dealt with will ultimately cripple our present life and deprive us of everlasting life!**

5.) Is it possible that I could allow my spouse or any of my children or relatives or even close

friends to stand in the way of my following Bible truth and surrendering ALL THE WAY to Jesus?! Matthew 10:36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own _____. **37** He that loveth _____ or mother _____ than me is _____ worthy of me: and he that loveth _____ or _____ more than me is not worthy of me. **NOTE: Because we live in a world antagonistic to truth and righteousness, sometimes when a person is convicted of the truth, they become afraid to take a stand because they know that their spouse or relatives will oppose their decision and the lifestyle changes that they will make. “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul”? Friend, if you have a close family member that is keeping you from following the precious truths that you have been learning from the Bible through this series of lessons, are you going to let them stand in the way of your eternal salvation?? Do you love them more than Jesus? Don’t hesitate a moment longer! Keep in mind that once you surrender, be the price what it may, you will be richly blessed! God will work things out! Do you really want to forfeit an eternity of happiness and bliss just so you can keep in good favor with a family member or earthly friend?**

6.) Do we have to crucify or put to death our selfishness so that Jesus can reign in us?

Matthew 10:38 And he that taketh not his _____, and followeth after me, is not _____ of me. **Romans 6:6** Knowing this, that our _____ is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be _____, that henceforth we should not _____ sin. **7** For he that is _____ is freed from _____. **8** Now if we be _____ with Christ, we believe that we shall also _____ with him: **Galatians 2:20** I am _____ with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet _____ I, but _____ liveth in me: and the _____ which I now live in the _____ I live by the _____ of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. **1Corinthians 15:31** I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, _____ **NOTE: The old nature of sin and self-seeking and pleasing must be put to death. It must come to an end and a new life of attachment to Christ must begin. As Jesus when He came in human flesh made Himself dependent on His heavenly Father to live a life freed from sin so must we become dependent on our Father in heaven through Jesus to live the victorious life!**

We must say “yes” to the convictions of the Holy Spirit and “no” to the cravings of the flesh!

- 7.) To deny ourselves the cravings of our flesh and the attractions of the world may seem like we lose the “good life” in this world, but what does Jesus say about this? **Matthew 10:38** *And he that taketh not his _____, and _____ after me, is not _____ of me. 39 He that findeth his _____ shall lose it: and he that _____ his life for my sake shall _____ it.* **NOTE: The “cross” basically represents suffering and death. Even Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane desired a different route for the salvation of mankind if that were possible; but He had to go against the natural desires of His humanity and faithfully surrender to His wise heavenly Father. So must we take up our cross and even when it may go against our natural desires and inclinations, follow Jesus and do right because it is right! Then the blessing of peace of mind and a pleasure of being a blessing to someone else will be experienced.**
- 8.) Does Jesus say there are stringent conditions for entering into everlasting life? **Matthew 18:3** *And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be _____, and become as little _____, ye shall _____ enter into the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:20* *For I say unto you, That _____ your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the _____ and _____, ye shall in _____ case _____ into the kingdom of heaven.* **NOTE: The virus of sin and evil absolutely cannot be allowed into God’s perfect kingdom of righteousness! The scribes and pharisees of Jesus’ time had their own made-up standard of righteousness which was still tainted with self and bigotry. Their system of religion was made up of cold, heartless outward conformity to a bunch of senseless rules! It did not produce any happiness in the hearts of the people.**
- 9.) What will happen when we do die to the old way of life and follow Jesus’ path of self-denial? **John 12:24** *Verily, verily, [Truly, truly] I say unto you, _____ a corn of wheat fall into the ground and _____, it abideth _____: but if it die, it bringeth forth much _____.* **John 15:4** *_____ in me, and I _____ you. As the branch _____ bear _____ of itself, except it _____ in the vine; no more can _____, except ye _____ in me.* **NOTE: When Jesus says, “Verily, verily” we better pay close attention to what He says! The reason there are so many false “Christians” out there and so many “hypocrites” is simply that few are taking the path of self-denial and true conversion of the heart and soul seriously! Jesus will only accept full-hearted devotion and consecration! This probably explains why there are such strong genuine Christians in places where there is heavy, brutal persecution; because it costs something to be a true follower of Jesus!**
- 10.) Does Jesus actually say that there is a sin which God cannot forgive? What does He mean by this startling statement? **Matthew 12:31** *Wherefore I say unto you, _____ manner of _____ and _____ shall be forgiven unto men: _____ the blasphemy against the _____ shall not be _____ unto men. 32* *And whosoever speaketh a word*

against the _____ of _____, it shall be _____ him: but whosoever speaketh against the _____, it shall _____ be forgiven him, neither in _____ world, neither in the world to _____. **NOTE: This is a very serious declaration in the words of Jesus! Anything this serious, warrants a satisfactory explanation so that we can avoid this terrible sin! This sin is directly connected to a sin against the Holy Spirit but not against the Father or Jesus. Why would this be so? Let's continue our study to find out.**

11.) What is the special work that the Holy Spirit does for our salvation? John 16:8 And when _____ is come, he will _____ the world of _____, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **13** Howbeit when he, the _____ of truth, is come, he will _____ you into all _____: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he _____: and he will _____ you things to come. **NOTE: It is the Holy Spirit who convicts and reproves sin. He is actually the active agent in making our salvation personal and practical especially when it comes to overcoming sin. It is through the work of the Holy Spirit that helps us to be sorry and repent of our sins.**

12.) If we do not confess our sins when the Holy Spirit prompts us to, then what can we expect? Proverbs 28:13 He that _____ his sins shall _____ prosper: but whoso _____ and _____ them shall have _____. **NOTE: Obviously any sin that doesn't get knowingly confessed will not be forgiven. Therefore, if we become hardened to sin to where we don't confess it, it becomes an unpardonable sin.**

13.) As soon as we become convicted in our hearts about sin, what should we do? Psalm 18:44a As soon as they _____ of me, they shall _____ me: **Psalm 119:60** I made _____, and _____ not to keep thy commandments. **2Corinthians 6:2** (For he saith, I have heard thee in a _____ accepted, and in the day of _____ have I succoured thee: behold, _____ is the accepted time; behold, _____ is the day of salvation.) **NOTE: As soon as we become convicted; we must not delay to confess it! When we learn new unmistakable truth, we should follow and obey it without any delay! Procrastination can be deadly! Because our hearts can become hardened and callous to where the Holy Spirit's impressions can become ever so slightly less impressionable until eventually we don't hear it anymore! There have been stories of individuals who put off the call to come up for an altar call at some evangelism or revival meetings but who delayed and ended up dying in a car crash, or some other tragedy soon afterward! Never play games with the call of the Holy Spirit!**

14.) What example do we see from the preaching of Noah just before the world-wide flood; that it was important for the people to respond to his call? Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said, My _____ shall not always _____ with man, for that he also is _____: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. **NOTE: Keep in mind that all the multitudes of people who had the intelligent free gift of choice ended their probation when the flood came and they perished with no salvation. Whenever Noah made his last appeal, they in**

effect committed the unpardonable sin or sin against the Holy Spirit! Friend, may this not be your case!

- 15.) The Third Person of the Godhead is the One Who brings light or truth to every person who will receive it. What should we do when we see this truth? Proverbs 4:18 *But the path of the just is as the _____, that shineth more and _____ unto the perfect day. 19 The way of the _____ is as _____: they know not at what they stumble. NOTE: As we respond to the rays of light (truth) that the Holy Spirit shines upon us, He gives more and more until we reflect more and more of God's character and be assured our happiness and joy will increase as we understand more of God's truth! But to reject this truth can set us on a path that will lead to darkness and ultimately destruction!*
- 16.) What scriptures warn us about grieving away the Holy Spirit to the point we don't hear it anymore? Psalm 51:11 *Cast me not _____ from thy presence; and take not thy _____ from me. Ephesians 4:30 And _____ not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are _____ unto the day of redemption. 1Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the _____.* NOTE: *According to these scriptures we can grieve away and lose the Holy Spirit. We can quench its still small voice speaking to our conscience. In Eph. 4:30 above, the same Holy Spirit Who can "seal" us for the day of redemption can be sealed off from working on our hearts by our persistent resistance! The scenario of an "alarm clock" can illustrate this. When it goes off in the early morning hours, we can wake-up but feel tired and turn it off. As we keep doing this, we eventually can get to the point where it doesn't awaken us anymore. We become conditioned to not hearing it!*
- 17.) Are there Biblical examples of the unpardonable sin being committed by certain Bible characters? A. Some of the religious leaders at time of Christ [Mark 3:22-30]
B. Judas' final betrayal of Christ and his consequential suicide [John 13:27; Matt. 26:21-25; 27:3-5]
C. Amorites [Gen. 15:16]
D. King Saul [1 Chron. 10:13,14]
E. Lucifer who became Satan [Isa. 14:12-14]
- 18.) After David Committed his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and murder of her husband Uriah, his prayer of deep repentance provided forgiveness, but what did he ask in this prayer besides forgiveness? Psalm 51:11 _____ me not away from thy presence; and take not thy _____ from me. NOTE: *Any sin against God or man can be forgiven. David may have been concerned about becoming numb or calloused to sin where if he continued in transgression he might lose the Holy Spirit's convicting power.*
- 19.) What shocking declaration will Jesus make to those on the final judgment day who were supposedly doing miracles and many wonderful works in His name? Matthew 7:21 _____

every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall _____ into the kingdom of _____; but he that doeth the _____ of my Father which is in heaven. **22** _____ will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not _____ in thy name? and in thy _____ have cast out _____? and in thy name done many _____ works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I _____ knew you: _____ from me, ye that work iniquity. **NOTE: There are many who profess to be Christians and may even be involved in faith-healing, miracles and even doing these things in the name of Jesus, but breaking His law, even His Sabbath. But Jesus will deny them entrance into His everlasting kingdom! As these verses bring out, they were not doing His Father's will and pronounced them workers of iniquity!**

20.) What longing appeal does Jesus make to all those who are prisoners of sin and caught up in its deceptions? Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the _____, and knock: if any man _____ my voice, and open the door, I will _____ in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. **22:17** And the _____ and the bride say, _____. And let him that heareth say, _____. And let him that is _____ come. And _____ will, let him take the water of life _____. **FINAL APPEAL: What will it take for those who are hesitant for whatever reason or excuse to make their decision for Jesus and the truth? The clock of time is ticking in these final hours of earth's history as we look over the abyss into the reality of ETERNITY!! What will you do my friend with all that you have learned from this series of lessons?? Will you allow your family, church friends, work associates or your peers to keep you from following the whole truth no matter how unpopular it may be?? While the Holy Spirit is still gently pleading with your heart, give it all to Jesus just now! An eternity of unimaginable peace, pleasure and happiness can be yours at the consent of your will! Don't wait a moment longer! If this is your genuine desire -Just sign your name to My Response below. . .**

Brief Quiz

Circle One

- 1.) True/False – The majority of the human race will be saved and secure for eternal life.
- 2.) True/False – Jesus could be painfully true with His strong statements.
- 3.) True/False – To be strong victorious Christians we must be willing to die to our fleshly desires.
- 4.) True/False – Following the popular majority when making crucial decisions is usually a safe course for the true Christian to make.
- 5.) True/False – We should always put our family or close friends first when it comes to deciding about spiritual and eternal issues.
- 6.) True/False – The unpardonable sin has to do with long repetition of hardening one's heart in resistance against the convictions of the Holy Spirit.
- 7.) True/False – When truth is plainly and vividly brought to our attention we should respond immediately in a positive way.

8.) True/False – People could be professed Christians doing all kinds of “good” things in Jesus’ name but if they aren’t obeying God’s commandments, they will be condemned in the judgment.

My Response

This lesson reveals the hard-core reality that there are unmistakable conditions to receiving eternal life. But I choose by faith to accept God’s grace to obey and follow Him no matter what the cost may be. I know He will see me through because He has promised, that “him that cometh to Me -I will in no wise cast out.” I pledge my will and all that I have on His side just now.

Signed _____

**** Thank you very much and congratulations for completing this series of lessons. If you have any questions or desire any more materials, books, or information please contact the giver of these lessons.**