



Walnut Street Church of Christ
306 Walnut Street
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36037

Happily Ever After – LESSON FIVE
The Long Foretold Dragon Slayer
God And Jesus, Our Suffering Savior, Saved The World
From Condemnation
(Matthew 27-Matthew 28)

Happily Ever After -- Theme: God and Jesus, our suffering Savior, saved the world from condemnation. The Memory Verse for this lesson is Galatians 4:4-5. “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.” (Galatians 4:4-5)

1. It is the desire of God that we all have eternal life. “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) The Lord is not willing that any should perish. (2 Peter 3:9)

2. It is from the Bible that we learn the will of God. The Bible is the inspired word of God. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

3. The Bible is divided into Old Testament and New Testament. The Bible is made up of sixty-six books; thirty-nine are in the Old Testament and twenty-seven in the New Testament. The Bible was written over a period of 1,500 years. It was written

in three different languages, Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. It was written on three different continents, Africa, Asia and Europe.

4. As Christians, we believe “all” the Bible to be true; we study the entire Bible and learn lessons from every part of the Scriptures. However, we today live under the New Testament. God took away the Old Law. He took it out of the way nailing it to the cross of Jesus. “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.” (Colossians 2:14) The Bible is true from Genesis to Revelation. The Old Testament was written for our learning and the New Covenant is the law that we live under today. (Romans 15:4)

5. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. He also created Adam and Eve. (Genesis 1-2) Before sin entered the earth man lived in a perfect relationship with God.

6. God gave Adam and Eve the power of choice. They could have anything in the Garden except “The tree of knowledge of good and evil.” The Devil used the serpent to deceive Eve. She gave the fruit to Adam; then he also ate of it. The consequence of sin was separation from God and punishment for all that were involved. (Genesis 3) Sin always separates people from God. (Isaiah 59:1-2)

7. When man sinned, the peace and harmony he had enjoyed with God was gone. Over the next years the descendents of Adam and Eve populated the earth. The books of Genesis and Exodus provide some information about that time.

8. After the fall, God chose a man of strong faith and gave him a promise of the Messiah. God promised Abraham and his descendents that they would be numerous like the stars in heaven. He also promised Abraham that through his seed or through one of his descendents all the earth would be blessed. (Genesis 12) The descendent through whom all would be blessed is Jesus Christ. (Galatians 3:16)

9. Through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph God developed the nation through whom the Messiah would be born. A part of the development of this nation was a period of 430 years spent in Egypt. The children of Israel came out of Egypt with a great miracle. God parted the Red Sea and they crossed over on dry ground. (Exodus 14)

10. It was during this time that God gave the “Ten Commandments” along with other laws to the Jews only. (Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5:15) The majority of the Old

Testament focuses on the heart of Hebrew or Jewish history. The reason for this emphasis is that Jesus was a Jew, born from the tribe of Judah, born at the right time and at the right place. “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.” (Galatians 4:4)

11. Jesus came to this earth as both the “Son of God” and the “Son of man,” or more correctly the son of mankind. “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” (Matthew 1:21-23)

12. When Jesus was about 33 years old, the religious people of His day crucified Him. They nailed him to a cross. His blood that was shed is the precious blood that slays the dragon and saves us. (1 Peter 1:18-19)

13. After Jesus’ death He was wrapped in burial clothes and laid in Joseph’s tomb. On the third day He arose again. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

14. Jesus established His promised church on the first Pentecost day after His resurrection. (Matthew 16:13-18, Acts 2) Those who “obey the gospel” are saved. (Acts 2:36-42) The saved are added to the church. (Acts 2:47)

15. We do not inherit sin, but we have all sinned. (Romans 3:23) How do we get rid of sin? Nothing is said in the Bible about praying the Sinner’s Prayer to be saved. To become a Christian we must hear and learn the gospel (John 6:44-45), we must truly believe that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24), we must repent of every sin. Repentance means we must change our heart and turn away from sin. (Acts 17:30) We must confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus. (Romans 10:9-10) The final step in becoming a Christian is that we are baptized into Christ. (Romans 6:3-4) HOW are we saved? “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:26) WHEN are we saved? “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:27) After our conversion there is reason to rejoice. (Acts 8:37-39)

16. What about God’s grace and mercy? (Ephesians 2:8-10) Grace means that we do not deserve salvation but God provides it for us. We cannot earn it, yet God expects us to love Him and obey His will in order to be saved. Mercy means that we did not receive what we deserved. We deserve eternal damnation, but we have been given the opportunity to be a child of God.

17. After we are baptized into Christ we must grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18) Christians must live right, think right and act right. Those who name the name of Christ must depart from iniquity. (2 Timothy 2:19) Christ must be formed in us. (Galatians 4:19) Christians should serve God daily, with all their heart.

18. Study the Bible for yourself. Be a part of the church that Christ died for. Love the Lord Jesus Christ and serve Him faithfully. Study your Bible daily. Pray daily. Share your faith with other people. Attend all the services of the church faithfully. New Testament worship is simple. Worship is to be on the first day of the week. (Acts 20:7) Worship involves preaching. The preaching in worship must be the preaching of the cross. (1 Corinthians 1:18) Singing is the result of “The word of Christ dwelling richly in the believer.” (Colossians 3:16) There is no authority for the use of instrument of music in our praise to God. “Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.” (Hebrews 2:12) Praying is a part of our worship as we approach the throne of God’s grace. (Hebrews 4:15-16) The Lord’s Supper is observed each Sunday. (Acts 20:7) In Communion we remember the death of our Lord Jesus Christ: (1 Corinthians 11:25-26) Giving is also one of the five avenues of worship each Sunday. (1 Corinthians 16:1-2) We give because of God’s unspeakable gift. (2 Corinthians 9:15)

19. Jesus slew the dragon, but we must do our part. (Revelation 20:2) It is not enough to be religious. “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32) It makes a difference what you believe. You cannot afford to be mistaken in matters that pertain to your soul. The Bible contains the answers that we need concerning Jesus, salvation, His church and concerning daily living. Two of the most challenging thoughts in the Bible are the: (1) “But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.” (Matthew 15:13) (2) “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (2 Corinthians 13:5) It takes two things to go to heaven, an open Bible and an honest heart! Let’s go to heaven together.

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