

Purpose for Man's salvation- Part 3

- ❖ In the last lesson, we looked at the 1st day which is the foundation. It is the beginning point where all restoration must begin (**Gen. 1:3-5**)
- ❖ God must sovereignly speak into that which is only darkness in order that light can shine. We saw that even though light shone, the darkness still remained.
- ❖ This is salvation by grace through faith. This is the free gift of God that brings light and life to that which is darkness and death (**2Cor.4:6**)
- ❖ This is based solely and completely on the finished work of Christ at Calvary. **John 5:24** *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."*
- ❖ This is what is pictured for us in Orpah and Ruth's marriage into a Jewish family. Even after their husbands died, they still remained part of the family.
- ❖ After the light shines on day one, everything that happens on days 2 through 6 has to do with something beyond the salvation we presently possess. It is of course the salvation of our soul which is in view. It is interesting to note that God spends one day on spirit salvation and then a further five days on the salvation of the soul.

DAY TWO – Gen. 1:6 *"Then God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.' 7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day."*

After the light shining, darkness still remains but we now have the separation between the light and the darkness. On Day 2, I would like us to see the separation that takes place and the focus on the heavens. This focus must remain and continues even after Day 2.

Heb 4:12 *"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart".*

- ❖ After our new birth, we are now in a position where we have a redeemed spirit (associated with the light) and an unredeemed soul (associated with the darkness). Through the ministry of the word, we will start to differentiate between the two, coming to realize that 'the flesh profits nothing'. 'It is the Spirit who gives life'. Even though someone is born again, we still have the sin nature.

Col 3:1 *"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth"*

- ❖ The recognition of the division between things heavenly and things earthly. Those things, which are spiritual, and those, which are carnal, must be acted upon if there is to be an advance to maturity. We will be choosing not to be conformed to the things of this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

1Cor 3:1 *"And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? 4 For when one says, 'I am of Paul,' and another, 'I am of Apollos,' are you not carnal?"*

- ❖ In relation to the Book of Ruth this would be pictured for us in the division of Ruth and Orpah. The separation of the carnal from the spiritual. Orpah, the carnal, turns back to the things of this world,

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but Ruth, the spiritual, commits to continue to the end. To go on to the meeting with Boaz with a view to finding rest in the house of her husband.

DAY THREE - Gen 1:9 "Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. **10** And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. **11** Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. **12** And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **13** So the evening and the morning were the third day"

- ❖ Here we see the dry land appearing from the midst of the waters. From the place of death comes that which is then able to produce fruit.

The third day, the resurrection, Israel coming out of the Red Sea and the symbol of water baptism are what we see here.

Rom. 6:3 "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin" **7** For he who has died has been freed from sin. **8** Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. **10** For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. **11** Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **12** Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

How will we be united together in the likeness of His death? – Remember –

1Pet 3:18-21 "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring [f]us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, **19** by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, **20** who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. **21** There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **22** who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him"

Col 2:12 "buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead."

Christ dies, having been put to death in the flesh, and is raised from the dead by the power of the Spirit, to the position where 'angels and authorities and powers have been made subject to Him'.

- ❖ Through baptism we are buried with Him in death, symbolizing the death of our flesh, as we go under the water – then we are raised from the dead, by the power of the Spirit, as we come out of the water, to walk in newness of life.

Our old sin nature, the 'old man' that associated with the word flesh is to remain in the place of death so that we no longer be slaves of sin, walking according to the flesh, but being led instead by the Spirit, so as to be fruitful in the antitype of the 3rd Day of Genesis 1:9-13

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John 12:24 *"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."*

- ❖ As we plunge beneath the water and rise again;
 - ✓ We are declaring our intention to be dead to self and to walk according to the Spirit as an ongoing process.
 - ✓ We declare our intention to keep our old man in the place of death
 - ✓ We declare that we have believed what God has said about this in relation to entrance into the coming Kingdom.
 - ✓ We declare our intention to be found worthy at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- Therefore, if we will believe – those things which God has said concerning things not yet seen – and be baptized – keep our old man in the place of death so as to walk in newness of life, led by the Spirit – then we will be saved, at the Judgment Seat of Christ

Gal 5:16 *"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh"*

Rom 8:13 *"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live"*

- ❖ It is only that which is done in the spirit that will produce fruit in our lives and it is only those who determine to walk in the spirit who will find themselves in the position of sons, positioned for rulership.

Rom 8:14 *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God"*. This would be picking up our cross daily and following Christ.

- ❖ In our connection with Ruth this is where we would see her working from the beginning to the end of the barley and wheat harvest, beating out the grain.