

December 25, 2016

## Jesus Blesses Us

### John 1:9-13

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

The Scriptures reveal several reasons why Jesus came into this world, and each of those reasons describes a \_\_\_\_\_ for mankind. The Lord's coming into the world touches each of our lives and opens up a wonderful way for us to \_\_\_\_\_ God. The Bible teaches us the truth that we \_\_\_\_\_ to know, the truth that we \_\_\_\_\_ know. That's why we keep studying this marvelous book. We work to \_\_\_\_\_ interested people to the Lord Jesus and to His Word, the Bible. God's Word has all the \_\_\_\_\_ for our spiritual lives. It teaches us where we came from, why we're here, and where we're going after we die. The Bible is God's marvelous \_\_\_\_\_ for us. It gives us all the information that we need to know for life and godliness. It brings us to Jesus and teaches us how to live so that we might \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

Of all our blessings, nothing could be more important than having a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with Jesus Christ. Someday this \_\_\_\_\_ and all it possesses will be burned up and destroyed. What will matter on that day is your \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with God, the God who loves you and gave His Son, Jesus, to die for your sins. Jesus Christ is the perfect \_\_\_\_\_ of love, of righteousness, of service, and of obedience. Because of Jesus, we can \_\_\_\_\_ the truth, and the truth can set us free (John 8:32). Because of Jesus, we have hope and peace and a future.

We need Jesus Christ in this generation as much as any generation could. I cringe when I think of people mocking \_\_\_\_\_ or ignoring Him. How foolish to turn down an opportunity to know and follow the Son of God! Jesus came into this world to \_\_\_\_\_ us. I don't want you to miss out, and I don't want to miss out. I want you to have every blessing in Christ.

### **Our reading today comes from The Gospel According to John 1:9-13.**

I'm deeply \_\_\_\_\_ that the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world. Our lives would be immeasurably \_\_\_\_\_ if Jesus had not come. We can know so many things that we wouldn't have known, because Jesus came. We can have a \_\_\_\_\_, loving relationship with the Father, because of Jesus. We have a living \_\_\_\_\_ beyond this grave because, of Jesus. We have a home in \_\_\_\_\_ forever and ever because, of Jesus. Today, we'll explore five reasons why Jesus came into the world. These are not the only reasons, but they are vitally important to our spiritual well-being.

First, Jesus came into the world so that we might \_\_\_\_\_ God. The Bible says, "For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him" (John 1:17-18). Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; and no one \_\_\_\_\_ to the Father but through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My

Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him” (John 14:6-7).

Second, Jesus came into the world so that we might know God’s will for our lives. **Read John 3:1-2.** Jesus was first and foremost a teacher; He wanted people not only to know God but to know the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. So, Jesus held this teaching to be essential to us. John 6:63 says, “the words that I have \_\_\_\_\_ to you are spirit and are life.” We must know and \_\_\_\_\_ the words of the Lord. **Read what the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:21-23.**

You cannot say no to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord without saying no to the Lord Himself. Jesus wanted us to know His teaching because it will be the basis for our \_\_\_\_\_ on the Last Day. Jesus took special \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver the teaching accurately and faithfully. **Read what the Lord said in John 12:48-50.**

When the Bible teaches something, you can be \_\_\_\_\_ it’s what the Lord Jesus wants us to know. Don’t trust your feelings, or your assumptions, or the teachings of men, or anything but what you can \_\_\_\_\_ in your New Testament. The only way that you can know the will of the Father for \_\_\_\_\_ is by looking at the words of Jesus Christ.

Third, Jesus came into the world so that we might have a relationship with God. **Read what the Bible says in John 1:11-13.** God wants everybody to come to Him and to be His \_\_\_\_\_, but not everyone wants to do His will.

God will forgive anyone’s \_\_\_\_\_ who will believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, repent of sin, and be baptized. The gospel is for \_\_\_\_\_, Jew and Gentile, male and female, slave or free. Anyone who loves the Lord and is willing to obey Him can be \_\_\_\_\_ and become a child of God. The apostle Peter said to the Roman Gentile, Cornelius, “I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who \_\_\_\_\_ Him and does what is \_\_\_\_\_ is welcome to Him” (Acts 10:34-35).

People who \_\_\_\_\_ to be close to the Lord but are unwilling to do the will of God fool themselves. You can’t continue to live in rebellion to the will of God and then expect to have a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with the Lord. The Lord wants to draw close to you; but if you reject His will, you’re rejecting Him, and His blessing.

Fourth, Jesus came into the world so that we might be \_\_\_\_\_. In Matthew 1:21, an angel of the Lord told Joseph about Mary: “she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will \_\_\_\_\_ His people from their sins.” In John 1:29, John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.”

John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that He \_\_\_\_\_ His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” This passage has so much to say about God’s \_\_\_\_\_ for us. The Father loved us enough to \_\_\_\_\_ His Son, Jesus, on the cross so that we might have forgiveness of sins and become children of God; to me, this is amazing. God gave up His Son to a crucifixion, the worst and most shameful death that a man could \_\_\_\_\_. He did it because He truly loved us and truly \_\_\_\_\_ what sin

has done and would do to us. He gave Jesus as the only way to \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins.

In Luke 19, the New Testament tells the story of Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector, the wee little man who followed Jesus. When the people grumbled that Jesus had gone to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of a man who is a sinner, Jesus said, “Today \_\_\_\_\_ has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was \_\_\_\_\_” (Luke 19:9-10). The Lord Jesus has graced the \_\_\_\_\_ of so many sinners, people who thought they would forever be enslaved to a life for which they are ashamed. The Lord gives us hope that we can \_\_\_\_\_ and be freed from the guilt and the hold of sin over our lives.

On another occasion when Jesus was eating with tax-collectors and sinners, the Pharisees asked His disciples, “‘Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and \_\_\_\_\_?’” But when Jesus heard this, He said, ‘It’s not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are \_\_\_\_\_. But you go and learn what this means: ‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,’ for I didn’t come to call the righteous, but sinners’” (Matthew 9:11-13).

Jesus went where the need was greatest, to those who needed Him \_\_\_\_\_. He wasn’t like the Pharisees who thought they were \_\_\_\_\_ than others; He wanted to heal the spiritual diseases of people. He knew everyone had a \_\_\_\_\_, and so He didn’t pick and choose which people He liked and ignore the rest. He loved everybody and suffered on the \_\_\_\_\_ for every person.

Many believe the Lord predestined or arbitrarily chose which people He would \_\_\_\_\_ and which would be \_\_\_\_\_. Because of this false teaching, and it is false teaching, some believe that they can’t ever be \_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord, no matter what. I tell you, nothing could be farther from the \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus loves everybody and He died for the sins of \_\_\_\_\_ person.

Titus 2:11 says, “the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men (all people).” Those who say Jesus shed His blood only for the \_\_\_\_\_, or the saved, contradict the Word of God. The inspired apostle John wrote to the elect in the church that Jesus “is the propitiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but also for the sins of the \_\_\_\_\_ world” (1 John 2:2). The Lord’s heart is not small; He has a place in His heart for you, my friend.

The apostle Paul, who described himself as the chief of sinners, realized that God’s \_\_\_\_\_ was greater than his sins. **Read what Paul said in 1 Timothy 1:15-16.**

Jesus came to this earth to \_\_\_\_\_. He was born with a body, a body destined to \_\_\_\_\_ for the sins of the world. Hebrews 10:4-7 says: “For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a \_\_\_\_\_ have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your \_\_\_\_\_, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

Jesus Christ gladly suffered and sacrificed His life so that we might \_\_\_\_\_ with Him for

eternity. The Lord said, “For this reason the Father \_\_\_\_\_ me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father” (John 10:17-18). Jesus Christ gave His body and His life as an \_\_\_\_\_ of great, personal love for you and for me.

Fifth, Jesus came into the world to give us an abundant \_\_\_\_\_. The Lord Jesus said, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). This promise of God has proven \_\_\_\_\_ on so many levels. The Lord Jesus has given us an abundant life here and will provide for us a \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven. Ephesians 1:3 reminds us that God “has blessed us with \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” Oh, God hears our \_\_\_\_\_; God grants us forgiveness and peace; God gives us living hope through the resurrection of Jesus; and God gives us His Word, the Bible, to instruct and guide us, and to encourage us each day.

Jesus blesses us so richly that I cannot imagine even one day \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord. Spiritual death takes place when a person \_\_\_\_\_ against God. The word “death” describes a separation. Physical death, according to James 2:26, is the separation of the physical body from the \_\_\_\_\_. Spiritual death takes place when we sin against God and separate ourselves from God. Jesus died to reconcile us, to bring us back together with God. The blood of Jesus atones for our sins and allows us to come back into the grace and \_\_\_\_\_ of God our Father. His blood opens the \_\_\_\_\_ for us to live as children of God and to have hope in the hereafter. Don’t let a single day, not a single hour, pass without the blessing of Jesus Christ in Your life.

When I think about Jesus Christ coming into this world, I recall the time that my wife Jackie and I visited Israel. We saw much of the nation. We especially liked our trip to the northern town of Baniyas, what the Bible calls Caesarea Philippi. The New Testament records a heart-searching question, a question that we must also ask ourselves. **Read Matthew 16:13-15.**

Who is Jesus to you? How do you \_\_\_\_\_ Him? That may be the most important question you ever answer. Some today say that He was only a \_\_\_\_\_; others say that He was only a \_\_\_\_\_; and still others say that He was a great moral teacher. Peter answered Jesus by saying, “You are the Christ (the Messiah), the Son of the living God.” Can you say that, too? Is He your Lord? Do you say that He is the Christ, the Son of the living God? If we \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord and commit our lives to Him, we can enjoy His blessings. If we turn Him down, we’ll lose the blessing that He came to give.

You can commit your life to Him by loving Him with all your heart, placing your \_\_\_\_\_ in Him as the Christ, turning away from all sin and then committing yourself to live as He wills, and by being \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ. Baptism is the immersion in water of a repentant believer. When you’re baptized God washes away your sins (Acts 22:16). He gives you newness of life (Romans 6:4). My friend, today is the best day for you to commit your life to God.