

How To Receive the Benefits of the Atonement

PART TWO

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To the man at the Beautiful Gate, who was a cripple since he was born, Peter said:

“In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise and walk.” (Acts 3:6)

He not only got up and walked, but he leaped around.

“And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.” (Verse 8)

On one occasion when Jesus and His disciples came to Peter’s house, they found Peter’s mother-in-law sick in bed with a high fever.

When Jesus came, He rebuked the Devil, and the fever left her at once, and she got right up and waited on them.

“And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon’s house. And Simon’s wife’s mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her; and immediately she arose and ministered unto them.” (Luke 4:38,39)

That is the lesson the Holy Spirit is seeking to teach us and that is an absolute dependence on the power of God alone. When we are in that position, we will enjoy the full benefits of the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross and just to the extent that we depend on something else, we will be hindered to that extent.

The point is, that it is just as necessary for us to depend on the power of God alone as it was for

Jesus to die on the Cross. They go hand in hand. The Atonement of Christ will mean nothing to us if we depend at all on anything else for those benefits.

The real object of the Truth is to bring us to an absolute dependence on God for all our blessings for time and eternity.

It is the same in our homes. Many times, one Christian in a home will try by their own efforts to get their loved ones to accept the Truth. A sister once said: “The message showed me a picture of myself. I have said a word here and there that I thought would help my loved ones, and not one of them has come into the Truth yet.”

It is just as unscriptural to say a kind word as a human effort as it is to complain to our loved ones, as far as getting them to live right is concerned.

When our dependence for the salvation of our loved ones is absolutely on God alone, just as quickly as He cast the demons out and broke the power of Satan over the Demoniac of Gadara, He will do the same for our loved ones.

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee for one purpose only and that was to meet the Demoniac of Gadara and cast the evil spirits out of him and send him home, clothed, and in his right mind, to let his folks see how the Lord had had pity on him and what great things He had done for him.

“And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.” (Mark 5:15, 18, 19)

God is no respecter of persons. If we want our loved ones to choose Jesus Christ over anything else, we must trust Him alone to break Satan’s

power over their lives and not for one moment allow Satan to make us think it will take a long time for Him to do it.

Satan may suggest: “Your loved ones will be saved some day, but it will be a long time. Something terrible will have to happen to make them wake up.” That is not true at all, as God can change our loved ones the very moment every human element has been eliminated.

The Blood of Jesus Christ has given us the right, when we put our loved ones in God’s hands, to claim an immediate deliverance and have Satan’s power broken over their lives at once. He can do that for our loved ones just as quickly as He did it for the Demoniac of Gadara. We would have our loved ones changed at once if we would take to heart what the Atonement of Christ meant. God wants to bring our loved ones into the Truth, and God is able and willing to do it and keep our homes in perfect peace, but every human effort, plan, and power must be laid aside finally and forever, and then God will give us the desires of our heart concerning our loved ones.

To have such a One as God for us with such unlimited power, wisdom, love, and mercy, and such an intense desire to help us, what should we not enjoy? What should we not have to make our happiness complete?

That is what Jesus meant when He said, *“Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.”* (John 16:24)

Or, “that ye may be perfectly happy.” That is what God’s will is for us. However, we could pray all our life, and if we were looking in our hearts to something besides God, we would be hindered and defeated. While we are depending on anything human, Satan can block our answers to prayer, and that will nullify the Blood of Christ.

This also relates to financial matters. Very few professing Christians have answers to prayer for money. The Atonement of Christ has placed

God's entire financial wealth at our disposal and has given us an equal share and right to have anything God owns. We are heirs of God and joint-heirs, or equal heirs with Jesus Christ.

Scripture says this. *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?"* (Matthew 7:11)

"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9)

It is our privilege when we need extra money for ourselves or to give away to others, to pray to God and receive it.

Satan has a most subtle and deceitful way to get us to lean on some human source. His object is to get us to look to the human source from which it is coming, and the moment we look to the human source, we will depend altogether on the human element.

If a husband was away and sent his wife a check for a hundred dollars, would she thank the mail man and give him all the credit for bringing it to her? She would not think of the mail man. She would think of the husband and would give him all the credit for it, and it is the same with us. We cannot afford for one moment to give the instrument God uses, any glory or credit. It is God in back of it.

When we cease looking at all possible human instruments and persons that God might use and our confidence and dependence is in God alone, we can get money for every need, for ourselves, and all we desire to give away. It is our privilege to have it.

If a person was out of work, it would be their priceless privilege to have all the money they wanted, just the same as if they were employed.

God's power, ability, and willingness is not limited. He kept the children of Israel for forty years – over two million of them, and so we will enter into our financial inheritance just to the extent that we lean on the living God alone.

We remember the great blessings that came to the children of Israel when the blood of the lamb was on the door. They were so perfectly protected that a dog could not bark at man or beast. They were delivered and thrust out of the land of Egypt, with silver and gold, and everyone was healed in body. This was all through a type of the Blood of Jesus Christ.

However, there came a day when they lost it all, and the whole company came within a hair's breadth of losing their lives. That was some contrast – to be robbed completely in almost a moment's time, of all the blessings of that type of the Atonement. They lost the presence and favor of God and also His protection.

Why? Moses went up the mountain to receive the Ten Commandments and stayed there longer than they had expected. They grew tired of waiting and told Aaron to make two little golden calves, imitations of the gods of Egypt, and they began to worship these gods and depend upon them, and they said:

"These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt." (Exodus 32:4)

They were depending on two idols which were no larger than our hand, perhaps, but they depended on them instead of God.

Moses fell on his face and prayed for the people, and God repented of the punishment He was going to inflict, but those calves had to be destroyed and ground to pieces and thrown into the river before they could regain God's favor.

That is the cause of all the trouble we have ever had, or ever will have – human dependence, and it is the thing that is sending people to the Lake of Fire, a limit to a full trust in the living God alone.

The very moment we have settled it that there is not going to be a limit in our trust in God alone, and have settled it finally and forever, then the full benefits of the Atonement of Christ become ours – God's righteousness, peace, perfect health, perfect protection, prosperity, and a full manifestation of His presence and power in all things.

That is God's whole object, and when we have experienced failure in any part of our life, it is only a red light let down from Heaven to show us that it does not pay to depend on human wisdom and power, but on the wisdom and power of God.

This is not an arbitrary rule. In the very nature of the case, when we depend on God, He can work unhindered; when we will not depend on God, His entire power is shut out and He cannot work.

That is what has happened to the Christian world as a whole. They do not know what it is to depend on God and burn their bridges in their dependence on the living God alone. That is the Holy Spirit's work – to show us the cause of our troubles and also to show us the way out, and how we may receive our deliverances.

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