

Qualities of a Minister

Part 2

INTRO: why make the New Birth a standard for Ministry Team?

- **Standard** – a level of quality, achievement, etc., that is considered acceptable or desirable. [Dictionary]
- **II Corinthians 4:3, 4 [NLT]** – *If the Good News we preach is veiled from anyone, it is a sign that they are perishing. ⁴ Satan, the god of this evil world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe, so they are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News that is shining upon them. They don't understand the message we preach about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.*
- **I.e.** anyone NOT Born Again is blinded!

Why do we need to be Born Again?

- **Romans 5:12-17 [NLT]** – *When Adam sinned, sin entered the entire human race. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. ¹³ Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. And though there was no law to break, since it had not yet been given, ¹⁴ they all died anyway—even though they did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did. What a contrast between Adam and Christ, who was yet to come! ¹⁵ And what a difference between our sin and God's generous gift of forgiveness. For this one man, Adam, brought death to many through his sin. But this other man, Jesus Christ, brought forgiveness to many through God's bountiful gift. ¹⁶ And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but we have the free gift of being accepted by God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷ The sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over us, but all who receive God's wonderful, gracious gift of righteousness will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.*
- **I Timothy 2:1-4** – *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴**who desires all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

How is salvation received?

- **Ephesians 2:8-10** – *For **by grace** you have been **saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in*

*Christ Jesus **for** good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

- **Hebrews 11:1 [AMP]** – *Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].*
- **Romans 10:8-10** – *But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): ⁹that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
 - **Savior** [from SOZO] – deliverer; preserver.
 - **Lord** [KURIOS] – he to whom a person or thing belongs, about which he has power of deciding; the owner; one who has control of the person, the master; this title is given to: God, the Messiah.

What comes with salvation?

- **Saved** [SOZO] – keep safe and sound, to rescue from danger or destruction; to save a suffering one from disease, to make well, restore to health; to preserve one who is in danger of destruction, to save or rescue.
- **Romans 5:17** – *For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of **the gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)*
- **Colossians 1:12-14** – *giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.*

Children of God have an inward witness.

Romans 8:14-17 – *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*

Fruit = the only way to judge.

Galatians 5:14 – *For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” [Love is that fruit!]*

The unpardonable sin.

- **Mark 3:28-30** – “Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; ²⁹“but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation”— ³⁰because they said, “He has an unclean spirit.”