21T11f Secret Agent Christians (Part 6)

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get your coffee or tea. Get comfortable and let's talk. If what I say is nonsense, then it's definitely from me. If anything I say brings you wisdom, then that's just God using me.

We are continuing the series I've titled "Secret Agent Christians". We have been talking about something I heard a pastor say about "Secret Agent Christians." He said there are two groups of Christians; Disciples and Secret Agents. (He described the "Secret Agent Christians, as Saved Christians but not disciples of Christ. Those who have done the minimum required for entry to heaven. This really confused me.

So I set out to figure this out and I'm sharing my process with you. First I pray for guidance and allow God to seed my mind. Second, I use the internet and tools to scour the bible for the topic. Then I read and let God guide me. God will guide the process.

Here is the list of scriptures we identified and studied

Now the rest of this is just going to be my opinion. I'll use a quote from Douglas Gresham the stepson of C.S. Lewis "If it be wisdom it's from God, if it be folly it's from me." So take it for what it's worth.

I fear that the doctrine of "salvation only" is giving people a false idea that getting a ticket to heaven is the objective of a Christian life. I believe salvation is not the objective but the fringe benefit or gift.

I am a Christian, a follower Christ, a disciple of Jesus. My objective is to grow my relationship with Jesus every day. Live in the Kingdom of God right now, every day. And I strive every day to be more and more like Jesus. That's what a disciple does. That includes the Great Commission in Matthew 28. It includes being His witnesses to everyone everywhere in Acts 1. It includes doing the works He has prepared for us to do as His Follower in Ephesians 2.

Salvation and heaven are the gift (Ephesians 2:8) that followers of Christ get for being followers. We are grafted into the family of God (Romans 11), and as sons and daughters (2 Corinthians 6) we get to live with our Father. We are the bride of Christ. Jesus will come and take His bride to live with Him forever in His Father's House.

If it was only necessary to believe in Jesus to have everlasting life, then what about the devil and his fallen angels. They believe in God, but still are condemned to eternal death in the lake of fire.

It has to be more than just believing. I think if we consider all the scriptures, they require us to "follow". As we follow our relationship with Christ grows.

If you look at all the scriptures we read. Then interrupt them all as one story together, the only conclusion is discipleship is the objective and salvation is the gift for those disciples. Paul was not just focused on salvation. He was talking to Christians in His letters. They were already Followers. So, it is justifiable to concentrate on the gift of Salvation to encourage the Christian, the Followers, The disciples of Christ to persist through their troubles, trials and tribulations.

We should not try to separate the two or suggest these are opposing views or two different gospels. There is only one gospel of Jesus. We should pay close attention to how Jesus defined the gospel and then interrupt our scriptures consistently and confidently using all the words of Jesus and all the words in the other books of the bible. One consistent message.

I'll leave you with these thoughts. A Christian is a follower of Christ. Follow is an action word. We are saved by grace. I believe our objective as a Christian is to Follow Christ, be His witnesses, go, make and teach new disciples, become more and more like the one we love. Jesus gives a free gift to His followers, which is salvation and eternal life with Him. So you be the judge, can there really be "Secret Agent Christians"??

Let me close with a prayer.

Lord Jesus, thank you for your word, the bible. I'm so thankful that a broken sinner like myself can read your words. I pray that the listener consider the big picture you paint with all the words of the bible, not just a single brush stroke.

I pray these things in your name Jesus. Amen

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or email me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think

Until next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.

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