

John # 123

**“The Second Greatest Challenge To God’s Grace Plan”**

*John 7:13-17; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 8:1-5; Philippians 2:25-29*

**Only biblical truth provides the capacity we all need for happiness because something that makes us happy today will make us miserable tomorrow apart from God’s perspective found in biblical truth and therefore true happiness must be based on the Word of God rather than on something that temporarily makes us happy for the moment.**

Happiness is related to the plan of God in which God found a way to give us His happiness without compromising His character, *Psalm 97:12; Habakkuk 3:17-18; Philippians 2:25-29.*

**God created the angels perfect with eternal life and the greatest of the angels, Lucifer challenged God’s authority and rebelled against Him.**

In so doing, God brought Lucifer to trial and found him guilty as charged of insurrection and He sentenced him to the Lake of Fire.

*Satan’s appeal trial is marked by God’s entering His exhibit #1, the creation of man, a little lower than the angels, yet similar in the fact that man also has free-will responsibility for his thoughts and actions as did the angels.*

Man like the angels was also created perfect but without eternal life as the angels always had and yet he too had to make the same decision the angels made; either trust and follow God or reject God and go it alone.

**Unregenerate man is said to be totally depraved or unable to do anything about his terminal sin-sick condition in relation to God’s absolute holiness; His righteousness and justice.**

Enter the magnificent grace of God which combined with His love, motivated Him to bridge the gap or barrier that once stood between us, thus reconciling us to Him, securing our so great salvation.

*God’s love for the unbeliever is impersonal and His love for the believer is personal and therefore, what the righteousness of God demands, the justice of God provides through the love of God which is expressed by the grace of God.*

The only solution to our terminal sin-sick illness is God’s gracious demonstration of His loving grace through the cross of His precious Son, Jesus Christ.

**The subject in Romans 5:8 is God Who has chosen to display or demonstrate something important, something which began in the past and continues into the present day; the love of God is still demonstrated through the work of Christ on the cross.**

Our God has done all this so that we can glorify Him to the extent He deserves through the execution of His plan done His way with His power!

*And that’s why we have so great a salvation as we have and that’s why we have a unique spiritual life in the Church Age, a life that the Old Testament saints never dreamed of; a life*

*with so many privileges and opportunities that require our undivided attention to learn and live by.*

**“To whom much is given, much is expected.”**

**Religion destroys human freedom.**

**Biblical truth sponsors human freedom.**

*The responsibility of the pastor-teacher, the evangelist or any Church-Age believer is to provide accurate Gospel information only.*

**It is the content of the message and not the delivery style of the communicator that counts.**

**Our job as ambassadors for Jesus Christ is NOT to pressure but to clarify.**

**We are to follow our Lord's example by communicating biblical truth to the world and the rest is up to Him and the Holy Spirit.**