

## **The Wednesday Word, June 3, 2020: Christ + Something = Nothing**

1. It is a serious offense to add to that which Jesus says He has finished! He has saved us by grace ... is this not enough? Is what He has done for us in His doing, dying and rising again not sufficient?

Acts 15:11 says, "But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved." Salvation, therefore, is not received, attained or kept by our works or behavior. We are saved by grace through faith (see also Ephesians 2:8-9).

Since we are saved by grace, it's time to stop adding further qualifications to salvation. Listen to Romans 11:6, "And if by grace, then it is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it is of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."

So, here's the truth of the matter. Christ PLUS ANYTHING equals nothing! For example:

If you are trusting in Christ plus your church membership you are not trusting Christ alone. This equals no salvation. Remission of sins is by the blood of Jesus alone.

We believe in Christ plus Nothing!

If you are trusting in Christ plus baptism, you are not trusting Christ alone. This equals no salvation. Remission of sins is by the blood of Jesus alone.

We believe in Christ plus Nothing!

If you are trusting in Christ plus a well lived life you are not trusting Christ alone. This equals no salvation. Remission of sins is by the blood of Jesus alone.

We believe in Christ plus Nothing!

If you are trusting in Christ plus your regrets, this equals no salvation. You are not trusting Christ alone. All the tears in all the world cannot wipe out sin. Remission of sins is by the blood of Jesus alone.

We believe in Christ plus Nothing!

The shocking thing is that those who are teaching the error of adding to the Finished Work think that, as a result of their additions, they are more secure in their salvation. They are blind (see II Corinthians 4:4).

Hear ye the word of the Lord! "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; you are fallen from grace (Galatians 5:4)."

The Scripture is quite plain on this subject, yet the Christ + something people are still preaching.

Again, in Galatians 5:2 we read, "Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if you are circumcised, (keeping the law for salvation: see I Corinthians 7:19), Christ shall profit you nothing."

This is a vital issue to get straight. Christ plus something (anything) equals no salvation! Jesus alone saves! The question is asked, "What can wash away my sin?" The answer comes, "Nothing, but the blood of Jesus".

There are many reasons why we should reject a 'Christ plus' message: Here are a few.

1) To pervert the gospel message is to bring a curse. "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:8)."

2) Christ plus makes God a liar.

I John 5:10-11 says, "...He that believes not God has made him a liar: because he believes not the record that God gave of His Son. And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."

3) A 'Christ plus' message makes man's righteousness part of salvation.

But, man's righteousness is as a filthy rag (Isaiah 64:6). How can filthy rags save?

4) The 'Christ plus' message causes the saved to become confused.

It robs them of their assurance and brings them into bondage thinking they must do something more to stay saved.

Beware of adding to the gospel. Keep it simple! Christ alone is as simple as we can get.

And that's the Gospel Truth!