

HE WHO ENLIGHTENS THE UNSAVED

John 16:7-11

Introduction: Contrary to what some think, no person is able at "anytime" to decide to be saved, the Holy Spirit must be involved. Something else to consider is that "public decisions" do not make a person saved. A person can "respond" to the Gospel and still not be saved. There can be no salvation UNTIL the Holy Spirit has been at work in that unsaved person's life.

The Holy Spirit seeks to enlighten the mind of the unsaved person as to Jesus Christ as Savior.

The Holy Spirit seeks to create a desire within the heart of that unsaved person for that salvation through Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit seeks to bring about a deliberate decision by the unsaved person to believe in Jesus Christ.

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT ENLIGHTENS THE UNSAVED OF SIN

1. It is not just his/her own personal sins for that would only bring perhaps shame, remorse, but no cure.
2. It is not some new sin which existed before Jesus died on the Cross, but it is the sin of UNBELIEF in Jesus Christ.
3. Why not all sins? Jesus Christ has already borne all sin.
 - It is hard for people to believe that ALL sin has been taken care of by Jesus Christ.
4. The Holy Spirit works to enlighten the minds of the unsaved of this good news.
 - God doesn't need to be persuaded to save anybody for God has already done everything.
5. There is not something for the unsaved to DO, but something for the unsaved to BELIEVE.

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT ENLIGHTENS THE UNSAVED OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Romans 5:17; Ephesians 1:6

1. The Holy Spirit seeks to enlighten the unsaved that God's righteousness is "imputed," declared to be, given.
 - That the ungodly who believe in Jesus Christ are GIVEN righteousness and are justified.
2. Every believer in Jesus Christ is LEGALLY made righteous by being made a part of Jesus Christ.
 - Understanding how or why God does this is not necessary, BUT placing all one's hope in Jesus Christ is.
3. It is strange, abnormal for a person to put ALL his/her trust in someone other than him/herself, therefore the Holy Spirit enlightens the unsaved as to this change that will take place.

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT ENLIGHTENS THE UNSAVED OF JUDGMENT

1. The Holy Spirit enlightens the unbeliever that Jesus Christ has already undergone God's judgment for his/her sin.
2. Every person would appear before God's divine bar of Justice and receive the death sentence, taken out and "executed" EXCEPT someone else has already died in the unbeliever's place.
 - Jesus Christ's death on the cross places the guilty sinner on the OTHER side of his/her own execution, ALIVE and uninjured.

- The believing sinner can look back on his/her own execution as having already taken place.
 - Jesus took his/her place while on the cross.
- 3. The Holy Spirit shows the unbeliever that Satan's authority over people has been taken away because their condemnation due to their sin has been removed at the cross by Jesus Christ.
 - Satan therefore has no claim or hold on the believer anymore.

CONCLUSION:

1. The Holy Spirit seeks to enlighten the unsaved that:
 - Jesus Christ's death paid man's debt to God because of his/her sins.
 - Sin that brings condemnation is UNBELIEF in Jesus Christ.
 - A perfect standing before God has been GIVEN, IMPUTED to those who believe in Jesus Christ and they are therefore declared RIGHTEOUS.
 - Nobody can save him/herself. Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation and righteousness.
2. Without the Holy Spirit nobody could be saved!
3. Have you been saved?