C & C: The devil's Slave Trade

Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

Ezekiel 18:4

4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: **the soul that sinneth, it shall die.**

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden they became the children of disobedience and thus the devil "had the power of death" (Heb 2:14) over mankind. The devil's Slave Trade had begun and mankind was in need of a Savior which would be Jesus the Christ. "And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Gen 3:14-15)

Ezekiel 18:20-24

- **20** The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.
- 21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.
- 22 All his transgressions that he hath committed, **they shall not be mentioned unto him**: <u>in his righteousness that he hath done</u> **he shall live.**
- 23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?
- 24 But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

Even though Jesus destroyed "him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;" (Heb 2:14) the law of sin and death still applies!!

Romans 6:14-18

- 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
- 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
- **16 Know ye not**, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
- 18 Being **then** made free from sin, **ye became** the servants of righteousness.

However, if "ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you" then you are "then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness". So Jesus Christ made a way for all of mankind to be free and destroyed The devil's Slave Trade. However, the soul that sins will still die as was stated, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

Romans 8:1-2

- 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

The devil's Slave Trade destroyed but the soul that sins will still surely die!!

2 Corinthians 4:4-7

- 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.
- 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, <u>hath shined in our hearts</u>, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

 7 But we have this treasure in <u>earthen vessels</u>, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

The devil still has the power to blind "the minds of them which believe not" because he is the father of the children of disobedience!! As promised in the Garden of Eden the prophecy spoken of God saying to the serpent the devil "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Gen 3:15) was fulfilled in Jesus the Christ. Jesus was this seed of the woman, the woman being the virgin Mary, and this seed, Jesus the Christ, crushed the head of the devil upon his death at the cross of calvary where Jesus then descended into the bowels of the Earth and took back the power the devil had over mankind, that being death!! The devil's Slave Trade was destroyed!!

Luke 4:18-19

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Hebrews 2:14-18

- 14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, **he also himself likewise** took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him **the seed of Abraham**.

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

Revelation 1:17-18

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

The devil's Slave Trade destroyed!!

Ephesians 4:8-10

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, **he led captivity captive**, <u>and gave gifts</u> unto men.

9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

So how can you become free of the law of sin and death since The devil's Slave Trade is destroyed?

John 3:1-7

- 1 There was a man of **the Pharisees**, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
- 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, **Rabbi**, we know that thou art a teacher **come from God**: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, **except God be with him**.
- 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again,** he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
- 5 Jesus answered, Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born of water and of the**Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Several things to discuss here. **First off** this born again process is **not a fleshly birth** but a spiritual birth as stated in verse 6. Also it is **very important to remember** that **these instructions** that were given here <u>are instructions</u> **that were given just 7 verses prior to this scripture:** 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Yet people <u>will cling to verse 16</u> and claim to be born again while ignoring everything else **Jesus spoke on.** For instance: Did Jesus not just tell Nicodemus, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, **he cannot enter** into the kingdom of God? Did Jesus not also tell us except ye repent, **ye shall all likewise perish.** Did Jesus not also tell us He that **believeth and is baptized** shall be saved.

God did so love the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. That is why we need to follow after the instructions that Jesus gave to us. Not just some of it. All scripture is given by inspiration of God. (2 Tim 3:16)

To fulfill being born of water **you must be baptized** as Jesus said, **he that believeth and is baptized** shall be saved.

Matthew 28:18-20

- 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth.
- 19 Go ye therefore, and <u>teach all nations</u>, **baptizing them in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
- 20 **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever <u>I have commanded you:</u> and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.** Amen.

Notice Jesus said, teach all nations, **baptizing them**, and teaching them to observe **all things** whatsoever I have **commanded** you. <u>Not just some things</u>. **But all things**. For all scripture is given by inspiration of God. (2 Tim 3:16)

So here Jesus tells us to **baptize them in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. <u>So what is the name?</u>

Jesus tells us the name and we are also told that Jesus received His name by inheritance.

Hebrews 1:4

4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

John 5:43a

43 **I am come in my Father's name,** and ye receive me not:

John 17:6, 26

- 6 **I have manifested thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.
- 26 And **I have declared unto them thy name**, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

John 14:16-18, 26

- 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another **Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever;
- 17 Even **the Spirit of truth;** whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you,** and **shall be in you.**
- 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
- 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send **in my name**, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Luke 24:45-49

- 45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,
- 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to **rise from** the dead the third day:
- 47 And that <u>repentance and remission</u> of sins should be preached in his name <u>among all nations</u>, <u>beginning at Jerusalem.</u>
- 48 And ye are witnesses of these things.
- 49 And, behold, <u>I send the promise of my Father upon you</u>: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued** with power from on high.

Jesus opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and told them what to speak. He told them to preach repentance and remission of sins in His name. And they did!!! He also told them to go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Holy Ghost. They did!!!!

So when the Holy Ghost was poured out as the Lord had promised, the Apostles told everyone, including you and me, what they needed to do in order to obtain salvation.

Notice that the Apostle Peter, preached to them exactly what the Lord told them.

38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

(Lk 24:47 <u>repentance and remission</u> of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, <u>beginning</u> at Jerusalem.)

(Jn 14:26 But the Comforter, <u>which is the Holy Ghost</u>, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and <u>bring all things to your remembrance</u>, <u>whatsoever I have said</u> unto you.)

The Apostle Peter continues.....

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The Plan of Salvation **for every** generation! **Remember:** The Holy Ghost will come into you with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance. (Acts 2:4)

That is enough to tell you that the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost **was Jesus.** The **Apostles did exactly what the Lord told them** to do. They preached repentance and remission of sins in His name, with the understanding that the Lord had just given to them, **thus fulfilling baptizing everyone in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Jesus prayed saying, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;" (Jn 17:20)

To follow what Jesus taught you must obey what "their word" was and their word as we have seen was exactly what Jesus told them to say and to do!!

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

This would include water baptism as we have already seen!! Now we are told explicitly "whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus".