

Why 'You' Can't Invite Jesus Christ Into Your Heart!

by Anthony Gulyas

(The New Testament nowhere speaks of conversion as 'making a decision to receive Jesus Christ into your heart', despite the frequent use of this phrase in popular evangelism). This statement may be a shock to many church-going people who carry the name Christian faithfully, but please examine the evidence, that follows;

Let's examine specifically, the Bible verses that are used to justify the belief that one can of his own free will receive or reject Jesus Christ into his or her heart or life;

'BUT AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM, TO THEM GAVE HE POWER TO BECOME THE SONS OF GOD....' John 1:12a

This verse refers primarily to those who have **already** had a true initial conversion experience, which a few of "His elect" received; that is, those who were Born Again due to God's will, in contrast to the rejection of the many;

John 1:11; cf. John 5:43; John 6:21; John 13:20

"Receiving Christ" in this verse refers to the "adoption of Christ's already spiritual born children", who have the further privilege of becoming a sons of God.

'AS YE THEREFORE RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, SO WALK YE IN HIM.' Colossians 2:6

The word used in the original Greek for "received" is *paralambano*, which properly means or refers to the reception of the Gospel preaching. The apostle Paul reminds the Colossians how they received the proclamation of Jesus as Lord; he was saying basically that;

'JESUS WAS DELIVERED TO YOU AS CHRIST AND LORD.'

'BEHOLD I STAND AT THE DOOR, AND KNOCK: IF ANY MAN HEAR MY VOICE, AND OPEN THE DOOR, I WILL COME IN TO HIM, AND WILL SUP WITH HIM, AND HE WITH ME.' Revelation 3:20

Although the above verse is much beloved, as an evangelical illustration, to invite unsaved sinners to come to Christ, it is written of course to those who were God's elect, who are still lost sheep, lost in apostate religion, who hadn't been truly converted to Jesus Christ. This verse was never intended to be used as a general invitation to every sinner in apostate Laodicea. Many evangelists have used this scripture to paint a pathetic picture of Jesus standing outside a door, waiting, knocking, knocking, waiting for the sinner to open up and let Jesus in. Sometimes, these preachers go on and on, until it sounds like "Aw, poor Jesus is out there in the cold, shivering, waiting for someone to let Him in. Won't you go ahead and let poor Jesus into your Heart?"

What a line of reasoning. First of all, as stated before, these words by the Lord in Revelation are not to the entire church, they are to Christ's elect sheep, who are lost in Laodicea, but not truly converted to Jesus Christ. This picture is truly pathetic. Jesus is standing outside of the apostate

church, knocking for them to let Him in! (sound familiar). And If there's any doubt left as to who He's talking to, look at Proverbs 20:12;

‘THE HEARING EAR, AND THE SEEING EYE, THE LORD HATH MADE EVEN BOTH OF THEM.’

Only Christ’s true sheep hear His voice in the effectual call;

‘... THE SHEEP HEAR HIS VOICE:’ John 10:3a and

‘... THE SHEEP FOLLOW HIM: FOR THEY KNOW HIS VOICE.’ John 10:4b ...

because it is only God who gives a spiritually passive and dead sinner, a hearing ear.

‘HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES.’ REVELATION 3:22

While it is true that the Holy Spirit addressed these Laodiceans, through his messenger (or angel); Revelation 3:14a, in the general call, it is also true that in Revelation 3:20, Jesus Christ is only calling His true elect lost sheep in His “effectual call.”

Second of all, the truth of the matter for sinners is the exact opposite. Jesus is not outside of their world, knocking to call them out of apostate religion, “they are outside of His future kingdom! And they can knock all night like the five foolish virgins; Matthew 25:11, but Jesus will never let them in unless they meet the requirements; a humble and contrite heart, and a complete disgust for sin. Then and only then will God deliver them from their slavery to sin – and qualify them for future entrance into His Kingdom”.

The three scriptures discussed thus far; John 1:12a; Colossians 2:6; Revelation 5:20 plainly show that there is no foundation scripturally speaking, to "believe that one has the willpower or volition to Invite Jesus Christ (who Is resurrected and exalted in heaven) into his heart. Yet In the same breath It must be pointed out that the Bible: states;

‘CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY....’ Colossians 1:27b

‘THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH....’ Ephesians 3:17

The Bible states that Jesus Christ, who is resurrected from the dead, ascended up to heaven and is exalted at the right hand of the Father, sits upon His throne till the time when He will come back to earth at His second coming;

‘...HE RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, AND SET HIM AT HIS OWN RIGHT HAND-IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES....’ Ephesians 1:20b

If Jesus Christ who is resurrected and exalted In heaven sitting on His throne and the apostle Paul in the above verses, as well as the apostle John in other verses say that Christ does indwell a person, as well as a Christian "having Christ", how does one reconcile the fact that they cannot invite Jesus Christ into their heart by choice. The only way to reconile all of this is to say that the more precise way of speaking Is that; “Jesus Christ indwells the believer in and by His Word and His Spirit, which cannot be separated, if one is truly born again.”

A truly born again child of God has Christ in him only and I repeat only because he has the Spirit

of Jesus Christ. For the Spirit from the ascension onwards is peculiarly the Spirit of Jesus Christ;
Acts 6:7; Romans 8:9; Galatians 4:6; Philipians 1:19;

When a sinner receives in “regeneration” is the Spirit and life of the Lord Jesus Christ who is risen and exalted. This is “the principle of indwelling life”, when Jesus Christ’s righteousness is imparted to the sinner.

Either you have the Holy Spirit or you don't, there is no inbetween middle ground to stand on, or fence to sit on. In the last analysis, it is only the possession of God's Spirit that makes a man or a woman a Christian.

‘BUT’ YE ARE NOT IN THE FLESH, BUT IN THE SPIRIT, IF SO BE THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELL IN YOU. NOW IF ANY MAN HAVE NOT THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST. HE IS NONE OF HIS. AND IF CHRIST BE IN YOU... IF THE SPIRIT OF HIM THAT RAISED UP JESUS FROM THE DEAD DWELL IN YOU, HE THAT RAISED UP CHRIST FROM THE DEAD SHALL ALSO QUICKEN YOUR MORTAL BODIES BY HIS SPIRIT THAT DWELLETH IN YOU. ROMANS 8:9,10a,11

The Bible even states that there are many who mouth the name of Jesus and say Lord, Lord, but the fact is they don't have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. Mouth confession is futile and useless without inward spiritual reality in the heart of man.

‘NO MAN CAN SAY THAT JESUS IS THE LORD, BUT BY THE HOLY GHOST.’
1 Corinthians 12:3b

It is the hypocrites who are labelled so in the Bible by the way they always say LORD, LORD, that have this very problem. They are continually saying LORD,LORD, JESUS, JESUS; every other word is Jesus. Jesus this, Jesus that. Thank you Jesus, praise you Jesus, yet they do not have the Holy Spirit themselves, they are not truly Born Again..... THEY JUST THINK THAT THEY ARE. It is these same people who make a great outward show in the flesh that have been deceived by corrupt evangelists and false shepherds, who have told them, all they have to do is "ASK JESUS INTO YOUR HEART or RECEIVE JESUS INTO YOUR HEART or ACCEPT JESUS INTO OUR LIFE." Yet Isn't It quite amazing that these same wolves in sheep's clothing who make salvation sound so easy, never ever explain what it means;

‘CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY.’ Colossians 1:27b.

Just say the sinner's prayer, and invite Jesus into your heart, ask him in, He's knocking at the door of your heart. Easy on the repentance and sorrow for sin and heavy on the; “you yourself doing something, in our own righteousness to accept Christ.

The last nail in the coffin of this deadly practise and belief is that it must be stated; the decision is not ours to make, in regards to inviting Christ into our lives. This work belongs entirely to God. It

is a lie and a fallacy to believe that man has a free will, and as a result can accept or reject Jesus Christ accordingly. Because every man has a sin nature and is in bondage to it; he is a slave to it, he cannot help himself in any way and he needs outside help as a result. This is pointed out in;

‘AND YOU HATH HE QUICKENED, WHO WERE DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SINS’
Ephesians 2:1

‘WE WERE DEAD IN SINS....’ Ephesians 2:5a

Needless to say, a dead man cannot help himself whatsoever for that very reason; because he is dead spiritually. A dead man needs external outside help, namely God's GRACE. Yet the false shepherds of today are saying a spiritually dead man can help himself by making a move towards or away from God by accepting or rejecting Jesus Christ. Man has no spiritual freedom; no, none at all. The fact is, God who is entirely Sovereign, is the only one who has true free will. Either we are servants to sin or servants of God; either way, a servant does not have any free will of his own. A true servant of God has given up his will to God, as he realizes that God's will is perfection and the only reason he can yield his members to righteousness or do anything for God, is because God has enabled him through His GRACE. Any other view is motivated from pride. Herein is enough proof listed to show why it is impossible for any man to receive or invite Jesus Christ into his or her heart or life of their own will or volition.