

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## **NO BODY – NO MINISTRY**

RLJ-1625

JOHN S. TORELL

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### **PART 3: BENEFITS FROM OBEDIENCE**

#### **CONSEQUENCES AND PENALTIES**

God has created spiritual and physical laws. We know that the spiritual laws supersede the physical laws or Jesus would never have been able to do the many miracles He did such as walking on water and raising the dead. **Matthew 8:23-27; John 7:11-16**

There is a physical law that states two physical objects cannot be in the same space at the same time. A practical example of this would be a vehicular collision. Traffic lights were invented to prevent collisions. They are placed along, beside, or above a roadway to guide, warn, and regulate the flow of traffic.

- ❖ A red signal light means stop.
- ❖ A yellow signal light warns you that the red signal is about to appear. When you see the yellow light, you should stop, if you can do so safely. If you can't stop, look out for vehicles that may enter the intersection when the light changes.
- ❖ A green light means go, but you must first let any vehicles, bicycles, or pedestrians remaining in the intersection get through before you move ahead.

If someone decides to run a red light and collides with another vehicle, there will be damage to the cars and possibly even the drivers. This is a natural consequence of not obeying the laws and rules of the road.

The driver that ran the red light will be cited and will have to appear in court. He will be penalized by a judge and could lose his driver's license, be fined and/or even sent to prison. This is a penalty.

When a person breaks God's spiritual laws there will also be consequences in form of sickness, damage to the human body and/or loss of life. **Galatians 6:7-8**

#### **LUST AND MURDER**

There were consequences when King David committed adultery with Bathsheba and subsequently ordered the death of Uriah in an effort to hide his sin. The baby from this adulterous act was not allowed to live. **2 Samuel 12:13-23**

There was also a special penalty imposed that "the sword" would never leave the house of David. Strife and murder would continue from generation to generation. **verses 9-12**

Esau learned the hard way that there are consequences and they are not to be taken lightly. **Genesis 25:27-34; Hebrews 12:15-17**

Jesus warned the disciples against coming up with excuses and looking back to the past. **Luke 9:57-62**



## **IGNORING THE CALL OF GOD**

The Holy Spirit was the supreme leader in the early apostolic church and He told the church leaders that Barnabas and Saul were to be a missionary team. **Acts 13:1-4**

Both men were used mightily by God as a missionary team and their ministry was very blessed. Paul and Barnabas were both saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit, but they still had the sinful nature. They got into an argument over Barnabas' nephew<sup>1</sup>, Mark, who had been with them on a previous missionary journey, but had abandoned them for some reason and returned to Antioch.

Instead of praying over the matter, Barnabas and Paul got so angry with one another that they disregarded the calling by the Holy Spirit and split apart. Anger and unforgiveness replaced the love of God.

Barnabas was not sent to Cyprus by God; it was his own decision to do go there. The Holy Spirit did not send Paul through Syria and Cilicia; instead, the church at Antioch provided a letter of recommendation for Paul and Silas. **Acts 15:35-41**

## **PROTECTION WAS LIFTED**

The protection on Paul and Silas was scaled back and a demonic spirit began to advertise on their behalf. **Acts 16:16-18**

This triggered another event in which Paul and Silas were arrested, severely beaten and put in prison. **verses 19-24**

As Paul hung in the shackles, he was praying and praising the Lord. More than likely Paul repented of his fight with Barnabas, the break-up of Holy Spirit sanctioned missionary team, and the ungodly anger and unforgiveness he was holding on to. God heard his prayer and Paul was set free from the shackles. **verses 25-34**

There is no written account in the New Testament that Paul and Barnabas ever reconciled but we know that Paul forgave Mark, also known as Marcus, and at the end of his life, considered him a valuable fellow worker in Christ. **2 Timothy 4:11**

## **GOD'S LAWS ARE STILL RELEVANT**

The obligations and penalties of the first covenant were retained and made part of the second covenant and they are still valid today. **Matthew 5:17-19; Hebrews 10:26-31; Revelation 3:14-19**

If you say that you love Jesus, follow His instructions. **John 14:6; 15:1-8**

Salvation is by faith, not by works. Good works will never save you. Christians do good works and are obedient because we are saved, not to be saved. **Ephesians 2:8-10**

This was restated by Paul, when he told us to work out our salvation. **Philippians 2:12-15**

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<sup>1</sup> Colossians 4:10

## **OBTAINING MAXIMUM BENEFITS**

The premium for God's assurance program was paid in full by Jesus on the cross some 2,000 years ago. **John 1:29; Hebrews 9:11-28**

It is important to stress the importance of obedience with God. You can only obtain maximum benefits for your soul and body when you are obedient to the laws of God. **1 Samuel 15:22-23**

There was no mercy under the First Covenant. **verses 24-28**

There is mercy through repentance under the Second Covenant. **1 John 1:4-10**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***