

Galatians – Lesson 15

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October 20, 2024

Last week we discussed the distinction between the natural mind and the Spiritual mind>>

<<the natural mind is ...*darkened* [Eph. 4:18]... so that it **cannot** ...*not accept the things of the Spirit of God* [1 Cor. 2:14]...>>

This is why God must give us the ...gift of faith [Eph.2:8]...>>

In this Gift, the Holy Spirit opens the eyes of our heart [Eph 1:18] to be able to express saving faith in Jesus>>

This is why Lydia believed the Gospel>>

Acts 16:14 *A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening [to the Gospel Message]; and the Lord **opened her heart** to respond to the things spoken by Paul.*

The Holy Spirit ...*opened her heart*..., to give her the gift of faith in Jesus>>

This morning let's consider what ...*faith in Christ Jesus*...looks like>>

1st saving faith always has Jesus as its Object>>

In the Bible, Jesus is called our*Husband* [Rev. 21:2]... and we are called...*His bride* [Rev. 19:7]...>>

Let's look at **Gen. 24** to see an example of saving faith>>

2 *Abraham said to his servant ... 4 go to my country and to **my relatives**, and take a wife for my son Isaac... v. 57 And [Rebekah's brother and mother] said, "We will call the girl and consult her wishes." ... 58 when they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" And she said, "I will go." ... 67 and she became [Isaac's] wife...>>*

Abraham is the father who sends his servant to find a bride for his son from his own family>>

Two things must happen for Rebekah to become the bride of Isaac>>

1. Abraham must give her the gift of his son>>
2. Rebecca must **received** Abraham's son as her husband>>

In the N.T. marriage is also used to describe our union in Christ>>

<<in **Rev. 21:2**, Jesus is our ...*Husband*...>>

<<in **Rev. 19:7**, we are ...*His bride*...>>

How did we become His bride>>

<<*we receive Him as our Husband by faith*>>**John 1:12**

Will you marry Me>>

The only acceptable response is our faith to say, I will>>

It is important to note that saving faith involves three responses>>

1. Rejection>>
2. Reception>>
3. Obedience>>

What is the unbelievable result of our receiving Christ as our husband by faith>>

2 Cor. 5:17 ...*if anyone is in Christ, he is a New [creation]; the old [creation of works] is passed away; behold, new things have come.*

Having received the Father's Gift of Jesus, we have been re-created in ...*the Image of Christ* [**Rom. 8:29**]...>>

<<*we have ...become the Righteousness of God in [Christ]...*>>**2 Cor 5:21**

There is no work on our part that can **qualify** us to receive the Gift of God's Son>>

Why>>

<<**Isaiah 64:6** ...*all our righteous deeds are as filthy garments...*>>

This is why we read>>

Heb. 11:6 ...*without faith, it is impossible to please God...*>>

Gal. 2:16 ...*a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus* [**Gal. 2:16**]...>>