

## Lesson #6

# God's Plan After Salvation



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### *Preparation for study*

The only thing that prevents the Holy Spirit from teaching us is our personal sin(s). King David of the Old Testament clearly put it this way:

If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear; (Psalms 66:18).

Therefore, if the Lord cannot hear a believer's prayer due to unconfessed sin in his soul, it follows doctrinally that the Holy Spirit will not teach the individual.

### *Here is the solution:*

If we confess [acknowledge] our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness [sins, known or forgotten] (1 John 1:9).

At this point, you may want to pause and acknowledge directly to God any sin that may hinder you from being fully blessed through the Word of God.

## *Spiritual Detachment from the World*

Lessons 6-9 will investigate the importance of spiritual detachment from the world for the believer. We will see what that means for the life of a believer. It will help us follow the command we find in Romans 12:12: "Do not be conformed to this world."

Our Lord told us:

If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you (John 15:18-19).

I [Jesus Christ] have given them Your Word [Bible doctrine]; and the world has hated them, because they [believers] are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You [God] to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one (John 17:14-15).

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever. (1 John 2:15-17).

Dr. J. Vernon McGee, the author of many Christian books, once said, “You may have lots of wealth, money... you may dig up the ground and bury them, and you could say, ‘no one will ever take them away from me.’ You are probably right, but you know that one day, death will knock on the door and you will be taken away from them.” That’s a remarkable statement!

The truth of the matter is that no one can take a penny along with him when he dies-no matter how hard he tries. This is a fact of life. One day I was watching the national news on the television when suddenly, I saw a strange thing on the screen. A Corvette was being buried with its owner.

Apparently, the owner had requested this unique funeral in his will. On one hand, if he was an unbeliever, he truly has made a mockery of himself. On the other hand, if he was a believer, he demonstrated how little, if any, he understood Bible doctrine.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in one of His doctrinal expositions, made a profound and alarming statement with regard to the things of this world.

‘Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions’ (Luke 12:15).

And He confirmed with a parable to illustrate His message:

“The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my

grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.” ’ But God said to him: ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’ (Luke 12:16-20).

Following this parable, the Lord Jesus Christ issued a solemn warning to all believers:

“So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God” (Luke 12:21).

This is a severe warning for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and should not be taken lightly.

### ***Self-Examination***

Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith [i.e., whether your lifestyle is parallel with the Word of God]; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you-unless indeed you fail the test? (2 Corinthians 13:5).

In reflection of the Lord’s previous warning in Luke 12:21, I see the need to challenge you as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. You have the option to pause now and meditate on the following questions:

**Question No 1:** As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, are you entirely or even partially attached to this world?

**Question No 2:** Is there anything in your life that, if taken away, would cause you to lose your spiritual momentum or hope as a believer?

**Question No 3:** Is there anything that is more important to you than God’s plan for your life after salvation?

**Question No 4:** Are you more preoccupied with the things of this world than you are with heaven and eternity to come?

**Question No 5:** Are you a good steward of the things that God in His marvelous grace gives to you?

**Question No 6:** Is your number one priority learning Bible doctrine, applying it, and growing in grace? Does what the apostle Peter says in the following verse apply to you?

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:17-18a).

**Question No 7:** Does the warning that we previously read in Luke 12:15-21 concern you?

Your answers are a personal matter between you and the Lord. You may wish to pause and meditate. Again and again, the Bible commands believers to spiritually separate themselves from this world. There are at least four major reasons why a believer should detach himself from this world:

- It is a direct command from God.  
Do not love the world nor the things in the world (1 John 2:15a).
- Satan is said to be the ruler of this world (John 14:30; Ephesians 2:2). Therefore, the world is not compatible with the Kingdom of God.
- Since this world is Satan's domain, it is impossible for a believer to make his home in two different kingdoms. Our Lord once said:

“No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth” (Luke 16:13).

If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15b).

- It is that simple! The fourth reason is that when we die, we will leave everything behind. The apostle Paul asserted:

But godliness [spiritual lifestyle] actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith [Bible doctrine] and pierced themselves with many grief's (1 Timothy 6:6-10).

This ends our study on self examination. Next time, in Lesson #7 we will continue our study of spiritual detachment from the world. Please join us as we take a look at handling new converts with wisdom. Until then, we pray that the Lord will bless you and keep you.

5/12/11