

## "LIMITED ATONEMENT"

by Elder Doyal Thomas Once a Pastor of our church. From his article titled "God Calls - Irresistibly"

This great doctrine is sometimes spoken of as "particular redemption", and that description is apt, for He who is the only Redeemer, came expressly to give His live for the sheep. It is clearly set forth in the scriptures that teach redemption, that Christ died for some in particular, and that He knew who they were. John 10:11 declares, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." And John 10:27-28 declares, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

Now, if it can be scripturally proven that all men are not now, nor shall finally be saved, then honesty demands that the doctrine of limited atonement be taught by all those who claim to be servants of God. If men are in hell, then the atonement was not universal, and was never intended to save all men. Otherwise, there is shame brought upon Christ, for He did not do what He was directed to do. But doesn't the Bible teach us that, "I do always those things that please the Father." (John 8:29)?

And where was the rich man when he cried out and said, "Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." (Luke 16:24)? Luke 16:23 answers this question, in terms that are not debatable, nor are they mere conjecture upon my part, nor upon the part of anyone who reads them, including those who ridicule the teaching of limited atonement. Listen to these words. Read them, those of you who would dispute with God's word. "And IN HELL he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."

Is there hope that this man, who is seen as being in hell, will one day be reprieved or pardoned from that place of torment? Read on and find out. Luke 16:26 settles this issue. It is most unnerving to read, but it is settled. "And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come hence." Universal, or general atonement advocates are without warrant for their position, for God's word will nowhere, or in any manner support such an erroneous position.



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**Prayers For Our Church Supported Mission Works** Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.



**"Man is nothing."** By Pastor Randy Johnson Galatians 6:3 "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

People are by human nature prideful, and conceited. Some people are in other people's minds as heroes, good natured, good moral values. Even in the world of Christians some people look at themselves as great, smart, valuable, good, and in some, even pride exist and in other, they are conceited. Some Christians think they can do God's work and they fail to credit God where His credit is due. Some Christians fail to even credit God with salvation as though He had noting to do with it. God said, "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." Romans 1:25 Some even say they are working their way to heaven, as though they have that power in themselves to do that, eliminating Jesus Christ as Saviour altogether. Pride and conceit are two of Satan's most powerful tools. But God said people are nothing, that we deceive ourselves. God tells us in Galatians 2:6 "But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me:" The Lord warned us as Christians not to think more of ourselves than we ought too. Romans 12:3 "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, <u>not to think of himself more highly than he ought to</u> think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." In God's eyes no man is great, we are as nothing, we are only what God has made us. Never on their own will a person ever do anything to please God, we are only what we are in Jesus Christ. Our greatest example in the bible is the Apostle Paul, he wrote 13 and maybe more books of the bible. He served the Lord faithfully for some 40 years in his ministry. He blessed God with ever know move he made after salvation. However, just before his death Paul wrote these words, "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." 1 Corinthians 15:10 Paul was given much grace from God and that is how he accomplished...

## "Man is nothing." Continued:

everything he did for God. Paul said all the grace that God "...bestowed upon me was not in vain;" meaning he took advantage of everything God used him for. Even while in prison Paul wrote letters to churches from His cell, and when it was all finished Paul said, "by the grace of God I am what I am". Paul also wrote these words, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;" 2 Corinthians 3:5 Man on his own is nothing, we can be proud, we can be arrogant, we can convince ourselves that we are something and that "we did that" but we are only fooling ourselves. If God's grace did not carry us just as it did the Apostle Paul and all other great Christians in history, not one single soul would have accomplished anything. Praise God for His wonderful grace.



- Our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bible Conference is approaching quickly. The Conference is scheduled Friday night and Saturday September 15 & 16. So far, we have 5 confirmed speakers.
  - 1. **Pastor Joey Newell** Sovereign Grace Baptist Church Silsbee, Texas
  - 2. **Pastor Ronnie Miller** Divide Baptist Church Sulphur Springs, Texas
  - 3. **Pastor Kelley Hinson** Landmark Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Texas
  - 4. **Pastor Larry Wilson** Northside Baptist Church Oakdale, La.
  - 5. Pastor Jimmy Nelson

Landmark Baptist Church Haltom City, Tx

We have two more invited that we are waiting on confirmation. These speakers are confirmed but are subject to change. Thank you all for your willingness to come and speak at our Confrence this year.

