

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: I John 5:10b-13 “...he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. *And this is the testimony:* that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”

Quote: Only Jesus, always Jesus. May my life reflect the Lord through the grace that God affords! Only Jesus, always Jesus. I will glorify my Savior and my King.

The vital and indispensable ministry of the Holy Spirit using God’s written Word to bring individuals to saving faith in God’s Son was described eloquently by Octavious Winslow in the 1800’s. *Please, carefully read his instruction and reflect upon it.* These truths will offer confidence to some and bring conviction to others. “*The Spirit of God* breaking, humbling, healing the heart; taking his own truth and transcribing it upon the soul; witnessing, sealing, sanctifying; opening the eye of the soul to the holiness of God’s law— to its own moral guilt, poverty, helplessness, and deep need of Christ’s blood and righteousness, thus leading it to rest on Him as on an all-sufficient Savior; thus producing ‘righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit’— this is the truth experienced— this is the religion of the heart; and all other religion, beautiful as may be its theory, and orthodox as may be its creed, is worth nothing! Without this experience there is no true belief in God’s Word. The revelation of God asks not for a faith that will merely endorse its divine credentials; it asks not merely that skepticism will lay aside its doubts, and receive it as a divine verity; it asks, yes, it demands, more than this— it demands a faith that will fully, implicitly, practically receive the momentous and tremendous facts it announces— *a faith that brings them home with a realizing power to the soul, and identifies it with them*— a faith that believes there is a hell, and seeks to escape it— a faith that believes

there is a heaven, and strives to enter it— a faith that credits the doctrine of man’s ruin by nature, and that welcomes the doctrine of *man’s recovery by grace*— in a word, *a faith that rejects all human dependence, and accepts as its only ground of refuge ‘the righteousness of Christ,* which is unto all, and upon all those who believe.’ Oh, this is the true faith of the gospel! Do you have it, reader?”

“A right view of Jesus Christ—His person, work and saving message—is an essential mark of genuine saving faith; no one can be saved who rejects the biblical revelation about Christ.”¹ Do you embrace Him as the virgin-born Son of God?² Do you embrace Him as the only means for restoration to fellowship with God through faith in His death and resurrection?³ Do you embrace Him as the victorious King of kings and Lord of lords Who will return for His own on a day and in an hour known only by God the Father?⁴ The gospel of Christ must not only be acknowledged in one’s head, but assimilated into a heart made new by the Holy Spirit and then faithfully applied to habits that *demonstrate a new state of being.* The Apostle John wrote a sobering warning to all who profess Christ as Savior, but offer little evidence of it in their lives. “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, you know that *everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.*”⁵ He further cautions those who see Christ as Savior, and do not live in loving submission to Him as Lord, “Little children, let no one deceive you. *He who practices righteousness is righteous,* just as He is righteous.”⁶ If you truly embrace Christ as God the Son, and are entrusting your soul to Him as Savior and Lord, you do so through the unmerited, unearned enabling of His Holy Spirit.⁷ That truth should make every Christian embrace his or her infinite and unpayable debt to grace, and seek to live as an instrument of righteousness for God’s glory!⁸

Joy through the Lord Jesus Christ

1 Unknown 2 Matthew 1:18-21 3 I Corinthians 15; I Timothy 2:5-6 4 I Thessalonians 4:13-18 5 I John 2:28-29 6 I John 3:7 7 Ephesians 2:1-10 8 Romans 6:11-18