

Great Contrasts That Should Make Us Grateful

Romans 6:23

Contrast #1 – Sin vs God

●What would be an “equal opposite”

1. Of sin –
2. Of God –

●Paul is not contrasting equal opposites

1. Sin is missing the mark of God’s g_____ (Rom 3:23)
2. Humans were originally created in God’s i_____ so as to reflect God’s glory in their lives (Gen 1:27)

Contrast #2 – Wage vs Free Gift

●Wage

1. An employee w_____ for an agreed upon wage
2. An employer is o_____ to pay that wage
3. S_____ pays a wage that we all have worked for.

●Free Gift

1. The Greek word is literally, “gift”, as the KJV translates. There is no “free” in the Greek text.
 - a. A reason for translating it as “free gift” may be because in our society most gifts c_____ you something
 - 1) You have won a free rug cleaning! (but you have to listen to a s_____ pitch first)
 - 2) You have won a new Chevy Spark valued at \$13,000! (but you will have to pay a gift tax and sales tax equaling \$5330).
 - b. A gift is something we do not d_____, otherwise it would be an obligation.
2. God gives a free gift that none of us deserve

Contrast #3 – Death vs Eternal Life

●Death

1. Is death too harsh of a penalty for disobeying God?
 - a. God created us b_____, soul & spirit (I Thess 5:23)
 - 1) God related to Adam and Eve through their s_____ (I Cor 6:17); sin severed their connection to God causing their spirit to die (Eph 2:1 – we were d_____ in our sins; we died spiritually)
 - 2) When we become saved, our spirit is made a_____ (Eph 2:5; I Cor 6:17) and God relates to us through that spirit (Rom 8:16; I Jn 2:27; Heb 4:12)
 - b. The disobedience of Adam and Eve was the act of c_____ off their spirit connection with God. God warned them, but they ate anyway.
2. The immediate context sees death as spiritual death primarily (Rom 6:1-11), but the greater context sees physical death as a penalty of sin as well (Rom 5:12-14).
 - a. Physical death is the separation of the spirit from the b_____ (Jms 2:26; Jn 19:30)
 - b. Just as the spirit cannot survive without being connected to God, the body cannot survive without a spirit.
3. If Jesus paid the penalty of sin, and physical death is a penalty, then why do Christians die?
– Because our salvation is not c_____

- a. Our spirit has been saved from the p_____ of sin (Rom 8:10; Eph 2:5; I Cor 6:7)
- b. Our soul is being saved from the p_____ of sin (our new nature gives us power – Eph 4:22,23)
 - 1) The word “soul” r_____ means the spiritual self (Matt 10:28)
 - 2) The word “soul” commonly refers to a person’s l_____, being or existence (Acts 3:23; I Cor 15:45)
 - 3) The word “soul” in the New Testament most frequently refers to the seat of the m_____, will and emotions (Matt 26:38; Acts 4:32)
- c. Our body will be saved from the p_____ of sin, which will happen at the second coming of Christ (Rom 8:23; I Thess 4:16; 5:23,24)
- d. See the promise of completion in Phil 1:6

●Eternal life

1. Is a personal r_____ to God through Jesus (Jn 17:3)
2. It lasts f_____, otherwise it could not be called eternal.
3. Is found only in Christ Jesus as our L_____

Do your prayers, your conduct toward others, and your service to God demonstrate that you are grateful for His free gift?