Study Seven

The Savior—Our all-in-all in Jesus!



Read the following Bible story: Luke 15:11-24 (The prodigal son)

The story's lesson for us today: At one time or another we have all gone astray from God, yet instead of condemning or chastising us, He unconditionally welcomes us home,

not as a stranger or servant, but as His precious child who once was lost and *spiritually* dead, but is now found alive in Jesus' loving arms!

What Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

Study Note: Read each question, and then look up the corresponding text(s) for the Bible's answer.

1) What is our physical & spiritual nature apart from God? (Isaiah 40:6-7; Romans 3:10-12, 23; 6:10-13; 1 Peter 4:6)

2) Due to our fallen nature, are we without hope? (Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 8:24; Hebrews 11:1; 1 Peter 1:3)
3) How can we exercise our hope and faith in Jesus? (Romans 5:1-2; Hebrews 4:14-16; 10:21-23)
4) Are we justified by our good works? (Romans 4:2-5; James 2:23)
5) Do our good works earn for us salvation? (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7)
6) Where does our salvation come from? (Psalm 62:7; Isaiah 12:2; Matthew 1:21; Acts 4:12)
7) Is our <u>justification</u> made complete in Jesus? (Romans 3:24; 5:17-18; 8:33; Galatians 2:16)
8) Is our <u>sanctification</u> made complete in Jesus? (John 15:1-5; 17:17-23; 1 John 4:10-13)

9) Is our glorification made complete in Jesus?

(Romans 8:29-30; 1 Corinthians 15:47, 49; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:21)

10) Who is all-in-all and worthy of our worship?

(1 Corinthians 1:30-31; Colossians 1:18-20; Revelation 5:1-13)

Study Commentary:

Man cannot save himself nor give a ransom for the penalty of sin, which is death. Foreseeing man's hopeless condition and need for a Savior, God sent his only begotten Son, that we may be saved that believe and abide in him "who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21). Those who believe in Jesus are justified by his good works; those who abide in Jesus are sanctified by his good works; and those who are made the righteousness of God in Jesus are to be glorified in his good works!

For further thought:

"When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker... Through sin the divine likeness was marred, and well-nigh obliterated. Man's physical powers were weakened, his mental capacity was lessened, his spiritual vision dimmed. He had become subject to death. Yet the race was not left without hope. By infinite love and mercy the plan of salvation had been devised, and a life of probation was granted. To restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized—this was to be the work of redemption." Ellen White, *Education*, pp. 15-16

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