

Systematic Theology session 44
Redeemed, Part 13

- The *ordo salutis* (order of salvation):
 - 0: Election
 - 1a: Effectual call
 - 1b: Regeneration
 - 2a: Repentance unto life
 - 2b: Faith in Jesus Christ
 - 3a: Justification
 - 3b: Definitive sanctification
 - 3c: Adoption
 - 4a: Progressive sanctification
 - 4b: Perseverance in holiness
- The combining of saving faith and repentance unto life as a definition of conversion.
- The fact that regeneration must come logically before saving faith (1 John 5:1).
 - “Faith is the first vital breath of the new born life. No sooner is the man regenerate than he breathes, so that faith without any time-lag lays hold of the righteousness of God.”
- The three elements of saving faith.
 - The element of knowledge, which involves hearing the gospel, and also involves the changed mind, to understand the gospel (Romans 8:5-9).
 - The element of assent (agreement that the gospel is true), which involves the changed will (John 6:44; John 5:37-40).
 - The element of trust (trusting in Christ alone for salvation), which involves the changed affections (Psalm 62:5-8).
- Saving faith as a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 1:29).
 - Saving faith as not arising from man’s native discernment or philosophy (Matthew 16:13-17).
 - Saving faith as not being meritorious toward the earning of salvation.
 - Saving faith as the instrument of justification, with “instrument” being likened to the empty, extended hand of the beggar to receive the gift of the rich man.
- The Word (either read or preached) as the means that God uses to grant faith to an elect person.
 - The Word as including the messages of law and gospel.
 - The law as convicting us of our sin and need (Romans 3:20).
 - The gospel as the good news of the way of salvation in Christ, and the gospel as the means God uses to grant faith (Romans 10:13-17).
 - The aspect of the granting of saving faith where God the Holy Spirit works directly in the elect person, with the word of the gospel (the external call), combined with the effectual (internal) call.
 - The “I” in “TULIP”, which is Irresistible Grace; the elect are made willing by the work of the Holy Spirit at the time of the application of redemption, and saving faith is then absolutely certain.
- Sola Fide, or “faith alone”; justification is by faith alone, through Christ alone.
 - Justification is not by our own obedience or law-keeping; sola fide and legalism are opposites (Romans 10:5-11).