

Colossians 2:13-15

"Ruin, Redemption, & Regeneration"

Intro: Preaching the 3 R's

-Mankind: Ruined with the first man Adam's fall into sin.

-The mighty work of redemption: Accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ in His sacrificial death on the cross.

-Ruined sinners: Have to be born again before they come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

* We must praise God for making His people _____ in Christ and _____ all of their _____ when they deserved to be condemned for their sins.

-The vast majority of evangelicals: Essentially deny that that the natural man or woman is spiritually dead in sins.

-The Colossians' physical condition: Corresponded with their spiritual condition prior to the Holy Spirit's mighty work in their lives.

-The popular version of regeneration: Gets things backwards by saying that faith and repentance precede regeneration.

-J.C. Ryle: "Sin not felt, sermons not believed, good advice not followed, the gospel not embraced, the world not forsaken, the cross not taken up, self-will not mortified, evil habits not laid aside, the Bible seldom read, and the knee never bent in prayer. Why is all this on every side? The answer is simple: Men are dead."

-The only regeneration found in Scripture: Accomplished by the Spirit of God working by and with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

-Verse 13: A great proof-text for the awesome truth that God forgives all of the believer's sins against Him.

-The 'record of debt' that stood against us: A reference to the moral law of God that is summarized in the 10 Commandments.

-The cross-work of Jesus Christ: A destructive work in which Jesus disarmed the 'rulers and authorities.'

-The really blessed people according to Psalm 32: Those who have been forgiven for all of their sins.

-Personal Application: