

Intro.

- A. If someone collected all the information they could find about your life & wrote a book about it, that volume would be described as a **biography**.
1. That's about what the gospel records are --- a record about Jesus' life.
  2. Many of us remember an old TV program, *This Is Your Life*. (about celebrity's life, minus the bad)
  3. Few of us would be willing to have **all** of our past reviewed.
- B. This morning, we are going to look at your biography.....& mine.
1. This account is factually accurate, & it tells us (and everyone else) all about us & the life we have live!
  2. We will see our lives developed in 5 chapters.
  3. Let's begin looking at chapter 1.

Discuss.**I. CHAPTER 1: PURITY.**

- A. That is how each of us come into this world
1. *Original Sin (Total Hereditary Depravity)* = doct. of men claiming all are born in sin inherited f/ Adam!
  2. John Calvin: man is *born wicked & depraved...[corrupt] in nature...the whole of man – mind & heart.*
  3. 1994 Catechism of the Cath. Ch.: *The doctrine of original sin...is the "reverse side" of the Good News that Jesus is the Savior...The church ...knows very well that we cannot tamper with the revelation of original sin without undermining the mystery of Christ.* guilt, **Lk. 3:38**
- B. Truth teaches that infants are **not** inherently corrupt. They suffer *consequences* of Adam's sin, but **not**
1. **Mt. 18:3; Ezek. 18:20**
  2. Sin = something we **do**, **1 Jn. 3:4** – *transgression of [God's] law; or leave undone, Jn. 4:17*
  3. This chapter tells the story of those youngsters dying before becoming accountable.

**II. CHAPTER 2: SIN**

- A. Every accountable person has sinned **Rom. 3:23, 1 Jn. 1:8***If we say we have not sinned, we deceive ourself*
1. Some (e.g. Mary Baker Eddy) deny the existence of sin.
  2. Atheist & some evolutionists have no foundation for right or wrong.
  3. Basic cause of our problems is → **godlessness!**
- B. There are 2 major causes of sin:
1. Failure to do what is right (omission) **Jas. 4:17 (1 Jn. 5:17 – all unrighteousness is sin)**
  2. Going beyond God's law (commission) **(c. 1 Jn. 3:4)**
  3. Some die in this condition (e.g. *in sin*, **Jn. 8:21 – you will die in your sins**).

**III. CHAPTER 3: BLOOD c. Eph. 2:12-13**

- A. There is no cleansing with the blood of Christ, **Eph. 1:7**
1. Modernist deny the virgin birth, the resurrected Christ & the effectiveness of His shed blood.
  2. There is a right way to cover our sins, & there's a wrong way,
    - a. **Prov. 28:13** *He that covers his sins will not prosper: but who ever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.*
    - b. **Psa. 32:1** *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*
- B. Sins are not too numerous or black to be cleansed, **Isa. 1:18** *though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*
1. The **chief of sinners** was confident of his cleansing, **1 Tim. 1:13**
  2. When did he obtain mercy? **Ac. 22:16** How do we reach the blood? **Rom. 6:3-4**

**IV. CHAPTER 4: PURITY**

- A. One washed in the blood is born into family of God, **Jn. 3:5**
1. He is called a new creature, **2 Cor. 5:17**
  2. Holy lives are to be lived. **c. 1 Cor. 6:9-11**

- B. Color of this chapter depends on the conduct of each Christian.
1. It can be spotted. (**Jas. 1:27; 2 pet/. 2:20**)
  2. Three things will help keep this chapter's pages white: *daily...prayer, Bible study & regular worship.*

Concl.

**V. CHAPTER 5: *EVERLASTING (LIFE in HEAVEN or PUNISHMENT in HELL).* (yet to be written).**

- A. Early in our lives, God is in control & we are pure!
1. as we grow towards maturity, we began making informed choices, & eventually sin
  2. many choose to become Christians & are washed in Jesus blood, thus cleansed f/ their sins
  3. too often, sin makes a come-back in our lives, & we allow it to again be a controlling influence
- B. While God has written this description of your life (& mine), as it were a biography, since we are directly involved in writing the final chapter
1. This biography really becomes an ***AUTOBIOGRAPHY.***
  2. How are you writing yours, & how would it read if it comes to a conclusion today?
- C. How will you write the last chapter in your *auto*-biography if ..... ?
1. There is not a major alteration in your life spiritually from this point forward?
  2. If chapter 5 of your autobiography is written before years end, how will it read?