

THE CHRISTIAN'S GREAT SALVATION

Ephesians 1:12-14; Philippians 2:12

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: "Salvation" is called "God's Salvation," "Eternal Salvation," "Common Salvation," and "Great Salvation." The Christian's "great salvation" can be described as:

- Coming from the great God.
- It is for great sinners.
- Coming to the believer through the merits of the great Savior.
- Flowing to the believer from the great reservoir of God's great Grace, the Heart of God, the Love of God.
 - Isaiah 45:17; Ecclesiastes 3:14

God's love is an everlasting love. God's grace is everlasting grace. Christ's redemption is an everlasting redemption. the Holy Spirit's seal is an everlasting seal. Christians are told in Philippians to **"...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling..." (2:12)**. If a person is saved, the salvation God has performed is "his/her" own salvation. Only believers in the Lord Jesus Christ have experienced God's Great Salvation.

I. SALVATION IS DESIGNED FOR GOD TO BE PRAISED

1. Salvation always honors God for it is a salvation reflecting the character of God.
 - The great, ultimate purpose of God in all things is the glory of His own great name.
 - The end of election, adoption, redemption, and calling is that there should be praise to God's glory.
2. Believers are to praise God's glory.
 - God's glory to be revealed in the believer.
 - God's glory to be displayed in the believer.
 - Praise, honor and glory should be given to God for salvation.
 - Thanks to God alone for all His benefits and blessings of grace.
 - All things should be done with the intent to glorify God.

II. SALVATION THAT IS BASED UPON TRUST IN GOD ALONE

1. John 6:37-39
2. God entrusted His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ long before any person came to trust/believe in Him as one's surety, shepherd and Savior.

III. SALVATION THAT IS OBTAINED AND ENJOYED BY A GIFT FROM GOD

1. The object of all true, saving faith is not in some "what" but in a "whom."
 - **"...In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation."**
2. Believers in Jesus have heard the Word of Truth.
 - It came from the God of Truth.
 - It speaks of Jesus Christ who is the Truth.
 - It is revealed by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, who leads the believer into all Truth.
 - It is the Word of the Truth by which the Spirit of God sets sinners free.

3. The Word of Truth came by the power of God, the Holy Spirit which is called "The Gospel of Your Salvation."
 - It is the Holy Spirit who calls sinners, regenerates sinners from death to life, revealing to them what Christ has done for them through the Word of Truth.
 - 2 Timothy 1:9-10
 - The preaching of the Gospel is God's ordained means of Grace.

IV. SALVATION THAT IS SECURED BY A GOD PLACED SEAL

1. *"...in whom also, after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise..."*
2. There is a three fold seal from God:
 - The Seal of the Father's Foreknowledge
 - The Seal of the Son's Love
 - The Seal of the Holy Spirit's Work of Grace.

V. SALVATION BY A PLEDGE BY GOD

1. *"...Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory..."*
2. The seal of the Holy Spirit is that which gives the believer his/her assurance of salvation.
 - The Holy Spirit of God is the earnest of the believer's inheritance, assuring him/her of it until the resurrection which is a three fold work:
 - Ransom Redemption
 - Regeneration Redemption
 - Resurrection Redemption

CONCLUSION:

1. The Christian's salvation is indeed great and only God can be honored because of it.
2. God deliberately planned and carried out His Great Salvation for lost mankind.
3. Every sinner that turns to the Lord Jesus Christ in belief is saved, sealed and secure throughout all eternity.
4. Every believer should be honored to give God the praise, honor and glory for His great, wonderful Salvation.
5. There is no power that can take away a believer's salvation, ever!
6. Philippians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:16; Titus 3:8, 14; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Ephesians 1:12-14