

## WHAT "BEING SAVED" IS ALL ABOUT

**Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16-18; Acts 16:25-31; Romans 1:16-17**

**(Not entirely original with me)**

**Introduction:** Few "non-Christians" know the details of "being saved" or about salvation and sadly, many Christians are unknowing as well. Christians have been "saved" indeed, but that's about as far as many go and they don't know all that is involved in their being saved. There is a disagreement among the Christian "circle" as to what it takes to be saved. Just how is one saved? How does one receive salvation? Is it by something special a person must do? There are so many doctrines about being saved and salvation, so which one is the right one? One needs to go straight to the Bible and the Bible ALONE to find what being saved is all about. So, what does the Bible say about a person being saved?

### I. IT IS BY GOD'S GRACE THAT A PERSON IS SAVED

1. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
2. "Grace" is an undeserved, unmerited act of favor or kindness.
  - "Grace" cannot be earned, it is something given without expecting anything in return.
  - "Grace" is the kindness of God given without anything to be given back.
3. God can offer "Grace" because somebody else has made it possible and that somebody is Jesus Christ.
  - Jesus paid the full price of everyone's sins, meeting God's just and holiness demands and therefore God is able to offer "Grace" freely.
  - The payment for sin has been fully paid for, the debt cleared, all done by Jesus, God's Son when He went to the cross and there died.
  - **"...It is finished!..."** declared Jesus from the cross and so it was.
4. Sin had to be paid for and Jesus, God's Son, paid it in full.
  - All that any person can do to be saved is to believe, trust Jesus Christ, the One who made being saved possible.
  - The moment a person does believe, trust in Jesus Christ, that person is saved, given eternal life.

### II. IT IS THROUGH ONE'S FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST THAT HE/SHE IS SAVED

1. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
2. "Faith" is personally trusting with full confidence in something or someone.
  - To believe, to trust in what Jesus Christ has done and why He did it is to express "faith."
  - "Faith" is being fully persuaded that God is able to carry out all He promises.
    - God has promised that all who trust in Jesus Christ as their own, personal Savior will be saved, receiving eternal life.
3. To trust in Jesus Christ to be one's Savior is depending on Him to save, to give eternal life.
4. It is easy to trust others about this and that and it is done every day, so why is it so hard for some to trust Jesus Christ for salvation, for eternal life, to be saved?

### III. BEING "SAVED" IS NOT SOMETHING ONE CAN DO FOR HIM/HERSELF

1. *"Ephesians 2:8-9"*
2. Being "saved" (or salvation) does not come from anything a person does or can do, for that would rule out the nature of Grace for Grace is undeserved and unearned.
  - God is the One who does the work to bring about salvation.
  - Whatever good or "righteousness" a person might have is absolutely NO value pertaining to one being saved.
3. The "Gospel" is called "good news" because God has worked out salvation for everyone and it is available to whoever will do what God requires and that is to believe and trust in Jesus Christ, God's Son.
  - Salvation, being saved, is totally an act of God's Grace.

### IV. SALVATION, BEING SAVED IS A GIFT FROM GOD

1. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
2. Everyone knows what a "gift," a present is, for everyone has either given or received a gift at one time or other and know that a gift, a present is free.
  - All one has to do to receive a "gift" is simply receive it.
  - *Romans 5:15-17*
3. All gifts are free, if not free, then they are not gifts, however "salvation," being saved, is a gift from God.
  - *Romans 6:23*
  - God's gift of salvation is free to those who receive it but it cost Jesus Christ His blood and death.
    - *1 Peter 1:18-19*
  - There is a great hymn that describes God's Grace: *"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"* (Pastor, read the hymn or have some sing it or *"Amazing Grace"*)
  - It is truly amazing, the Grace of God and how much greater it is than "our sin..."

### V. NOBODY CAN "HELP" GOD SAVE

1. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
2. There is nothing a person can do to be as righteous as God demands, nor is there anything a person can do to pay for his/her own sins other than spending eternity in the place prepared for sinners - HELL.
  - Jesus Christ has done all that is required, all that is necessary to enable a person to be saved.
  - Nobody can do anything on his/her own to become acceptable to God.
    - *Romans 3:27-28*
3. A person is justified by his/her faith without contributing anything of his/her own. No Works Allowed!
  - God isn't looking for works from any person, only that person's faith in Jesus Christ.
    - *Romans 4:5; Titus 3:5*
  - The ONLY acceptable thing that guilty, condemned, helpless and disqualified people can do to be saved is to have faith, to believe, to trust in Jesus Christ.

## CONCLUSION:

1. God's Word declares that every person is a sinner, totally unable to do anything about his/her sins and is destined to spend eternity in the place God made for all sin - HELL.
2. God's Word declares that His Son, Jesus Christ has made the ONLY way for a person to escape eternity in Hell.
3. God's Word declares that Jesus Christ has paid for EVERY sin of EVERY person by His death on the cross.
4. God's Word declares that God will SAVE every person who believes in His Son, Jesus Christ and that no person can add anything to what God does to bring about salvation.
5. God's Word declares that it is by GRACE that a person is saved and that there is nothing a person can contribute to his/her being saved.
6. God's Word declares ***"...For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; Not of works, lest any man should boast."*** (Ephesians 2:8-9)
7. "Being Saved" is about Jesus dying on a cross for the sins of every person and that God's justice, penalty for sin has been ;paid for and that God offers through GRACE (a free gift) eternal life to all who will trust, believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
8. HAVE YOU BEEN SAVED?

(Source of outline from "Secure Forever" by Dr. Thomas M. Cucuzza)