

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

THE GREATNESS OF SALVATION

“[God our Saviour] will have all men to be saved”

~ 1 Timothy 2:4

1. Defining Salvation

- a. God’s will is that all men be saved (1 Tim 2:4; Isaiah 45:21-22)
- b. How we are saved should be clear: Christ died for our sins, rose again for our life
- c. We are saved by grace through faith, not of works - Eph 2:8-9
- d. ... but what does it mean to be saved? What is its definition? How do you know?

2. Saved from What

- a. Death/Enemies - 1st mention “saved” Gen 45:7, 47:25 “thou hast saved our lives”
 - i. In the OT it was saved from death/enemies –Ex 14:30; Nu 10:9; Ps 18:3
 - ii. For Israel salvation was from present adversity and tribulation – 1 Sam 10:19
- b. Sin is the obvious answer – but sin is a scorned concept. (Scorners are plenty)
 - i. Sin is transgressing the law (1 John 3:4), unrighteousness (1Jo 5:17), Foolishness (Prov 24:9), know and don’t do (Jam 4:17), not faith (Rom 14:23)
 - ii. *What’s so bad about sin?* Answer: it’s consequences – Rom 6:23
 1. It steals, kills, destroys - John 10:10; it makes us an enemy – Ro 8:7
 2. Sin is what brings death, makes ourselves wicked and deserving wrath
- c. Ourselves – “not of yourselves” - Eph 2:8, see also Titus 3:3
 - i. The heart is wicked - Jer 17:9; In me dwelleth no good thing – Ro 7:18
 - ii. “*We have met the enemy, and he is us*” – Walk Kelly
- d. God – we need to be saved from God most of all, that great Judge – Rom 1:18, 5:9
 - i. Denying the judge means you reject salvation – only the Judge can stop evil
- e. Saved from death, foolishness, wrong, trouble, despair, ignorance, wickedness, lies, injustice, oppression, evil, filth, hate, emptiness, vanity.

3. Saved to What

- a. No one refuses salvation; it is the way of salvation they reject. (Deu 30:15, 2Ti 1:10)
- b. Life, wisdom, righteousness, peace, joy, mind, worthy walk, truth, justice, goodness, purity, love, fullness, glory. – Rom 5:8-10, Gal 5:22, Phil 4:8, Rom 8:18, Ro 14:17
 - i. All these are found in Jesus Christ our Saviour (dispensationally considered)
 - ii. Only Christ deals with the source of all problems: sin
 - iii. Pursuing salvation without Christ will not only fail, but is foolish.

4. How Do I Know I’m Saved

- a. If you don’t know you are saved, it is probably because you are not.
- b. Salvation is not by your own worth, works, or will, but of God in Christ through faith
- c. Salvation is for the ungodly, sinners, who need it – Rom 4:5
- d. What proof do you have you are saved?
 - i. The only evidence anyone is saved is Rom 3:25, 4:24-25, 5:1, 6:23
 - ii. You can know you are saved because of Christ’s payment for sins and power over death in resurrection.