

OUR GREAT SALVATION 1 Peter 1:1-5

INTRODUCTION:

A. Salvation is the Grace of God.

It is the **Gift** of freedom from our sins that Jesus Christ made possible by taking the punishment for our sins on the Cross.

B. Salvation makes Believers acceptable to God and it gives Believers eternal life which is the glorious privilege of living forever with God.

C. Salvation gives Believers the Savior – The Lord Jesus Christ.

It gives us the Savior who loves us – who has loved us to the point that He sacrificed His life and died for us. Jesus Christ is the Savior that Believers can commit their lives to and be loyal to as it is for the highest good.

- “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).
- “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:8).

D. Someone asked a Christian, “Are You Saved?”

“In what tense?” was the queer retort of the Christian. “What do you mean?”

“Well”, said the Christian, **“Salvation is in three tenses:**

1. It is in the **Past:** ‘not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost’ (Titus 3:5).
2. Here is Salvation in the **Present:** ‘moreover, Brethren, I declare unto you the Gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and ... by which **also ye are saved**’ (1 Cor 15:1-2). Not only were we saved in the Past, but we need Salvation continuously.
3. Finally, there is Salvation in the **Future.** ‘Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him’ (Rom 5:9). **Is your Salvation in all three tenses?**” (Bible Illustrations – Illustrations of Bible Truths, pp 205-206).

PROPOSITION:

In this message, we will examine three thoughts around the meaningful topic of “Our Great Salvation”.

Our Salvation is Great because:

I. It Comes From God (Ps 62:1; James 1:16-17)

Salvation comes from God and only from God. We cannot do anything to save ourselves.

A. God Planned Salvation

God alone created the Plan of Salvation before the foundation of the world.

1. Christ declared this truth – God’s Plan of Salvation (John 17:24).
2. Christ was presented as the Redeeming Lamb in the Plan of Salvation as part of God’s eternal purposes (Matt 13:35).
3. The truth that God’s Plan of Salvation was formulated before the foundation of the world was taught by Peter (1 Peter 1:20), Paul (Rom 16:25) and John (Rev 13:8).

B. God Provided Salvation

It is God’s plan to bring people out of their unsaved and sinful condition. This is made possible because He sent Jesus to be the Redeeming Savior of all mankind (John 3:16; 1 John 2:2; 4:10, 14).

C. God Shares Salvation

In God’s planning and provision of Salvation, we recognize that Jesus is waiting so that more sinners will repent and turn to Him (2 Pet 3:9).

- **Christ died for Sin. Believers die to Sin. Unbelievers die in Sin.** – Unknown
- **“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission”** (Heb 9:22).
- What can wash away my sin – Nothing but the Blood of Jesus
What can make me whole again – Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

II. It Changes Us

In 1 Peter 1:3, when Peter stated, “God ... hath begotten us,” he meant being Born Again, spiritual birth; the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit.

A. Salvation Changes Our Relationship With God

1. **Before Salvation** – a person does not have a vital relationship with God.
2. **After Salvation** – Christians are “no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God” (Eph 2:19).
 - “¹² That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ (Eph 2:12-13).
3. The change in relationship with God causes Believers to become interested in living a life that is pleasing unto God.
 - Christian living is to be pleasing unto God. Jesus lived to please His Father (John 8:29). Paul’s concern was to please God, not men (1 Thess 2:4; 2 Cor 5:9; Col 1:10). The Hebrew writer also mentions the importance of pleasing God (Heb 11:6).

B. Salvation Changes Our Relationship to Sin

1. Salvation breaks the power that sin once has on Believers. The penalty of sin has been removed in the redemptive work of Christ.
2. As Believers, we now find that sin does not bring the joy and pleasure that we once thought it did. We can now face the temptation because God is faithful:
“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it” (1 Cor 10:13).
3. As Believers, we realize that sin is against the Holy God. Christians live to please God.
 - “¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:11-13).
4. As Believers, we still sin because, even though we are **forgiven**, we are still human beings.
 - Our sins are forgiven – God remembers our sins no more
“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us” (Ps 103:12).

C. Salvation Changes Our Relationship to Life

1. Salvation gives purpose to our lives – to Glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.
 - “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor 10:31).
2. As Believers, Salvation gives certainty about the future.
 - Our future – Eternal Destiny (Heaven) is secured in Christ
“²⁵ Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: ²⁶ And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? (John 11:25-26).
 - All Believers – dead or alive – when Christ comes back again, He will take His people home to heaven.

III. It Is Secured

Our Salvation is a secure and permanent relationship with God.

- “And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together” (Rom 8:17).
- “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:28).

- A. Our Salvation is Secure** – It is an unchanging Gift from God
- “To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you” (1 Pet 1:4).
 - 1. Peter stated that our inheritance is Heaven – Salvation is a Gift that is a settled and secure possession.
 - 2. Peter also mentioned that our inheritance is: “**Incorruptible**” (imperishable, indestructible, “**Undefiled**” (will not wear out or waste away), “**Fadeth Not Away**” (It will not become worthless), and “**Reserved**” (kept in heaven for us).
- B. Our Salvation is Secured – Protected by God**
- “Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Pet 1:5).

“**Kept**” means guarded and protected: God has reserved our Salvation in Heaven and keeps a constant guard over it until we arrive home (Heaven).

CONCLUSION:

A. JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN

John Dyer, a Welsh poet and pastor from the 1700s once wrote, “A man may go to Heaven without health, without riches, without honors, without learning, without friends; but he can never go there without Christ.” Today our world is filled with people who are seeking some other way to God than the one found in the blood of Jesus and His precious name, but all such efforts are doomed to failure. Jesus is the only Way to Heaven (Ministry 127).

B. Salvation is a Free Gift that is available to all mankind

- “But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many” (Rom 5:15).
- “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom 6:23).
- “⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9).

C. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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“...the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).