

SEVEN IMPORTANT THINGS ABOUT SALVATION

As we read the scriptures today, we should notice that many of these verses are inter-related to each other on this great subject of 'salvation.'

First, we'll look at

Who Promised Salvation? God.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Many times today we use the word 'hope' to mean a 'wish' or a 'desire' for something which we can NOT know such as "We hope it doesn't snow tomorrow."

But the word 'hope' in the Bible is a confident assurance of a future event that is steadfast because it is founded on God's Word.

God promised us the hope of eternal life. We know that He cannot lie, so it is a 'sure thing.'

Titus 3:4-7 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour
toward man appeared,
5 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;
6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
7 That being justified by his grace, (We'll notice this again later.)
we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (There's that
'blessed assurance' we sing a song about!)

The 'end' of our 'hope' is 'eternal life' from God. It is His 'GIFT' to undeserving man:

Rom 6:22-23 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God,
ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23 For the wages of sin is death;
but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Our hope comes
through Jesus Christ)

Which brings us to our 2nd point:

Who Bought Salvation? Jesus Christ.

Rom 3:24-26 Being justified freely by his grace
through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation **through faith in his blood**,
to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past,
through the forbearance of God;
26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness:
that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

God promised salvation
to those who believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood for their sins.

We are justified that is 'made just --- or right.'

Rom 5:8-9 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that,
while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood,
we shall be saved from wrath through him.

We have redemption that is 'freedom because Jesus 'paid the price' with His own death.'

Col 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood,
even the forgiveness of sins:

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

We also have peace with God because Jesus took the wages of our sin for us:

Col 1:19-20 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;
20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross,
by him to reconcile all things unto himself;
by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

- We've seen that
- God Promised Salvation
 - Jesus Purchased Salvation

Now, let's look at the 3rd point:

What Taught Salvation? Scripture.

Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture?
Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

It is the Holy Word of God the Scripture that 'speaks' to tell us about how we can be 'saved' from the penalty of our sin.

We are 'made right' when we believe God's message concerning His Son's death and resurrection. His WORD is where we find the information. Then we must have the faith to believe it:

2 Tim 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures,
which are able to make thee wise unto salvation
through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God is 'breathed out' of His mouth.

That's beneficial to us --- to teach us all we need to know about salvation:

2 Tim 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable • for doctrine, • for reproof,
• for correction, • for instruction in righteousness:
17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Fourth, let us remain 'on guard' against the Adversary/

Who Fought Salvation? Satan.

2 Cor 4:3-4 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not,
lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God,
should shine unto them.

Satan is the one who opposes God's plan of salvation. By trickery he deceives people. Originally, he deceived a woman but after the fall, he also deceives men:

1 Tim 2:14 And Adam was not deceived,
but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

2 Tim 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse,
deceiving, and being deceived.

Actually, we've all been prey to Satan's devices:

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived,
 serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one
 another.

He tricks people with religion:

2 Cor 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers,
 transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed
 as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

We've already read

Rom. 3:24 that told us we have redemption 'through faith in His blood'
 and Rom. 5:1 that says we are 'justified by faith'

Now, let's look at the 5th point:

What Brought Salvation? Faith.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith;
 and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

God counts us as His children when we believe:

Gal 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

That's what faith is --- believing what you can NOT see:

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, (Remember, we talked
 about the HOPE of eternal life?)
 the evidence (That's the 'proof') of things not seen.

God declares us righteous --- justified --- when we have faith (that's belief) in His Word:

Rom 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly,
 his faith is counted for righteousness.

Next, let's think about Who Makes All that Work How Is Salvation Effected.

Who Wrought Salvation? The Holy Spirit.

When we trust Christ for salvation, the Spirit of God 'seals the deal' for us.

3 times, we're told that God's Spirit seals us:

Eph 1:13-14 In whom ye also trusted,
 after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation:
 in whom also after that ye believed,
 ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,
 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Eph 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God,
whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

You know that 'earnest' money is a deposit or downpayment on an item that you've bought. God's Holy Spirit is deposited IN us --- until the day we're raptured.

2 Cor 1:21-22 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ,
 and hath anointed us, is God;
 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

We will recognize that God's Spirit is in us, sealing us in God's family:

Rom 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit,
 that we are the children of God:

God provided salvation for every person through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (who was of the seed of Abraham) It is effected by the Spirit of God:

Gal 3:13-14 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:
 14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

We've come to our 7th and Final Point for this message.

Who Is Salvation For? Everyone!

God has promised and provided salvation for any one who believes:

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

It is God's desire that every person be saved:

1 Tim 2:3-4 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

We'll close with my 'signature verse':

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:
for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;
to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

This is David Dowell, saying "Think about it!"