

# Understanding The Outworking Of Salvation

Explore Your Faith Teaching Series - Explo-19<sup>©</sup>

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## OUTLINE

### Introduction:

The writer to the Hebrews issues a warning to those who would ignore 'so great a salvation' (Heb.2:1-4). This study explores the greatness of this salvation.

It examines aspects of salvation throughout the Bible.

We examine the key aspects of 'identification' and 'exchange' in the accomplishment of our salvation.

Salvation is past, present, and future. We are saved, we are being saved, and we will be saved.

### A warning to pay attention to this great salvation - Hebrews 2: 1-4

Who is the warning to?

Why? The reasoning applied is that the gospel is greater than the law; if disregard for the law brought punishment, disregard for the gospel will bring even greater punishment.

What are we to pay attention to?

Careful not to disregard (or neglect) it; to beware of embracing it as a doctrine but not entering into its fullness

1. Its *incomparable greatness* in the love demonstrated (Eph. 3: 17b-19). *See the words used!*
2. Its *completeness* in Christ's sacrificial death; nothing can be added to it or taken away from it (Heb. 10: 12-14).
3. Its nature that of a *free gift* so that no one may boast (Eph 2:9). Justification is *by faith alone, in Christ alone; not works. By the new birth (John 1: 11-13; John 3:5-7). There is a distinction between 'new birth' and 'salvation (new birth is a completed event, salvation is a process that Christ will complete in believers through the resurrection of our bodies).*
4. Its *completion* is yet to come. This is the basis of Christian Hope: resurrected bodies united with our souls and spirits. (Salvation is past, present and future, i.e. are saved, are being saved, will be saved. We have already dealt with these aspects in a previous session)

### Aspects of salvation that we can identify with (Key word is Gk. "sozo"= saved/ to save)

*Important: The aspect of God's "saving is present throughout the entire bible, but we are going to look at some New Testament examples o show its comprehensiveness.*

'Deliverance'-The Gaderene demoniac (Luke 8: 26ff) and others

From crippling or chronic physical conditions/infirmities:

Woman with issue of blood (Luke 8:47, 48)

Cripple at Lystra (Acts 14:8-10)

Raising from the dead- Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:50); Lazarus (John 11: 38-44).

Various other healings; people blind from birth, lame from birth, deaf, dumb etc

Healing very often associated with the forgiveness of sin

Other examples

All of these "saving "acts are in keeping with Jesus' mission: "to destroy the works of the devil"

Jesus recognised his mission to save (Luke 4:18, 19; c.f. Isaiah 61: 1, 2 a).

[NB: 1. "Year of the Lord's favour" corresponds to "the day of salvation"

2. "The day of vengeance" in the Isaiah scripture is yet to come; Christ did not quote it because it will happen at his Second Coming].

There is a distinction between the new birth and salvation.

### How is our salvation accomplished?

**God (in Jesus)** took the sinner's place (because of his love) and paid the penalty (which his holy wrath demanded). How great is the work of the cross!

*In order to appropriate that entire salvation (i.e., to live victoriously) we must understand what Christ's sacrifice accomplished. If we do not, then we grieve God because we set limits on what God can do.*

**Firstly, He identified with us**, so that we could through his work on the cross be identified with him. He came as the *last Adam so that we may be crucified with him (Rom. 6: 6, 11; 1 Cor. 15: 45, 47), taking* every evil due to us in his body and eventually dying for our sins.

Consequently, *we can identify with him* in his death (Col. 3:3); his burial (Rom. 6:5, Col. 2:12) his resurrection and life (Rom 6:5; Eph. 2: 4-6); we are included with Christ in his inheritance and destiny.

**Secondly, an exchange took place to set us free:**

He was punished for our forgiveness (Isaiah. 53: 4, 5)

He was wounded for our healing (Isaiah 53:4, 5)

He bore our sin that we might obtain his righteousness (Is. 53:10, 61:10; 2 Cor. 5:21)

He took our poverty so that we might have his riches (2 Cor. 8:8; 9:8)

He suffered death that we may have his life (Heb. 2:9)

He became a curse for our blessing (Gal 3:13, 14) (Rom.3:29, 30)

He took our shame and rejection so that we might have his glory and acceptance (Matt 27)

**Spiritual, physical, & emotional needs met through this exchange on the cross**

We need to recognise that walking in the joy of our salvation is not easy because:

We are continually hated by the world in which we live (John 15:19)

Our thoughts have to be transformed: our minds are carnal (Rom. 8:7, 8);

The devil himself prowls around like a roaring lion waiting to devour us (1 Pe. 5:6, 7)

**Conclusion:**

Practice thanking God; it is the best demonstration of your faith. "Without Faith it is impossible to please God".