

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **Hebrews 2:1-3.**

For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away *from it*. [2] For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

- ### B. Have you ever noticed that in your life that you appreciate something only after you lose it!
- C. We often take for granted, the things we always have around us. This can be true of our salvation too.
- D. But we can never afford to take our salvation for granted--it's just too good to be true.

II. SALVATION IS BY **GRACE**, NOT BY PREDESTINATION.

A. People are not predestined for heaven or hell by God's choice. The plan of salvation was predestined before the world began, and that can't be changed (Eph. 1:3-5).

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, [4] just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love [5] He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

B. Grace simply defined is an undeserved gift. This is true in respect to our salvation; we did not deserve to be saved. We did not earn our salvation, it was (is) a gift from God.

C. Salvation is by GRACE:

1. See Eph. 2:8,9 (our works were sinful).

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; [9] not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

2. See Ti. 2:11,12 (grace teaches us to say no to sin).

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, [12] instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

3. See Ti. 3:3-5 (justification is by grace).

For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. [4] But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared, [5] He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

D. Our salvation is too good to be true. Everyone can enjoy the gift of God's grace! It's not by predestination, but by grace.

III. SALVATION IS BY **FAITH**, NOT BY WORKS.

A. Salvation has always been by faith (in the OT and NT). Some have said that grace is God's part, and faith is man's part.

B. Very clearly, without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6).

And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

C. It is better to view the role of works in this saying: "You don't work to be saved, you are saved and therefore you work." Our works are to be deeds of gratitude for our salvation, not in trying to earn it.

D. Salvation is by FAITH:

1. See Hab. 2:4 (the righteous shall live by faith).

"Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.

2. See Jn. 8:24 (must believe in X or die of sin).

"I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you shall die in your sins."

3. See 2Cor. 5:8 (we walk by faith, and not by sight).
we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.
 4. See Mk. 16:16 (one must, believe before being baptized).
“He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.
 5. See Gal. 3:2 (from the hearing of faith).
This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?
- E. Our salvation is too good to be true, everyone can be a part of it. Stop doing Egypt’s work in Canaan’s land! Salvation is not by works, but by faith.

IV. SALVATION IS BY LOVE, NOT BY RACE.

-  A. God is not a racist or a bigot. Salvation is not conditional based on national origin, gender, age or race. The church is God’s Israel today (Gal. 6:14).
But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- B. The gospel is to be preached to everyone, period (Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15).
- C. Salvation is by LOVE:
1. See Jn. 3:16 (God so loved the (entire) world).
“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
 2. See Rom. 5:8,9 (while yet sinner’s God loved us).
But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. [9] Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.
 3. See 1Pet. 3:9 (God desires that no one perishes eternally).
not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.
 4. See 1Pet. 2:9 (the church is God’s people).
But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God’s OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
- D. Salvation is too good to be true, everybody can be a part of it. Stop saying you’re not good enough to be a Xian! Salvation is not by race, gender, or age, but by love.

V. SALVATION IS BY CHRIST NOT BY LAW.

-  A. No one can go to heaven by commandment keeping. Because no one can keep God’s law perfectly (Rom. 8:3).
For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,
- B. The Law of Moses was our tutor to bring us to X (Gal. 3:24; Jn. 1:17).
(Jn 1:17) For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.
(Gal 3:24) Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.
- C. Salvation is by CHRIST:
1. See Jn. 14:6 (no man goes to the Father but by X).
Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.
 2. See Ac. 4:12 (no other name given for salvation).
“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.”
 3. See Col. 1:13,14 (in X is the forgiveness of sins).
For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

4. See 2Cor. 5:21 (X became sin in our behalf).
He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
 5. See Ac. 17:31 (X will judge the world).
because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”
- D. Salvation is too good to be true, everyone can be a part of it! Enjoy the pardon that comes by the Just and the justifier (X)! Salvation is not by law, but by Christ.

VI. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.



- A. Salvation is just too good to be true. It is not by:
1. Predestination.
 2. Works.
 3. Race.
 4. Law.
 5. Intelligence (education).
 6. Ability (talent).
 7. Physical appearance.
 8. Age.
- B. Salvation is just too good to be true because it is by:
1. Grace.
 2. Faith.
 3. Love.
 4. Jesus Christ.
- C. Respond to the grace and love of God by coming in faith to JC.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.