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## **Being Saved**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Being Saved.

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### Topics.

- Being saved.
- Works and salvation.

The words being saved do not apply to those who have humbled themselves, repented and placed their trust and their lives in the Lord Jesus Christ for their eternal salvation, but rather to those who are hearing the Gospel and have a heart that is open to hear it, these are the people the words, 'being saved,' applies to. The King James Bible leaves no-doubt that eternal salvation in Christ is certain, guaranteed, and absolute, whereas certain verses of some modern Bibles appear to imply that those in Christ are being saved.

### The following are some examples:

In the book of Corinthians, the English Standard Bible says:

- The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are *being saved* it is the power of God.

The King James says of the same verse:

- Unto *us which are saved* it is the power of God (1 Cor. 1:18).

In a later chapter the English Standard Bible again says:

- By which you are *being saved*, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you.

Whereas the King James Bible says:

- By which also *ye are saved* (1 Cor. 15:2).

The English Standard version in the book of Acts says:

- The Lord added to their number day by day those who were *being saved*.

The King James Bible says:

- The Lord added to the church daily as *should be saved* (Acts 2:47).

Since those being saved are being added to the church the words, 'being saved,' in this context refers to those who are hearing the Gospel and open to receiving it, but have not yet made a commitment. The Gospel of Christ does not proclaim that those who come to Lord in humble repentance and faithfully follow him are only 95% saved and will not be 100% saved, until they by their own self-effort achieve the other 5%. This is not the Good News of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ rather salvation in the Lord is certain, guaranteed, and absolute, because it is not based on works, but on faith and God's grace.

**SUMMARY:** the words, being saved refers to the unsaved in the process of being saved and not to those who are already saved. Salvation in the King James Bible is always absolute, definite, assured and decided it leaves no room for doubt, for those believing and trusting in the cleansing

power of the blood of Christ. The translation of the King James Bible in regards to eternal salvation and those being saved is in perfect harmony with the Gospel message of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**If we ask ourselves the following two questions:**

1. What can I do by self-effort to pay-back the Almighty and Holy God who so loved me, that he gave his only Son, that if I believe in him, I will not perish but have eternal life? (John 3:16).
2. What can I do by self-effort to pay-back Christ, who gave his life over to a cruel, brutal, and horrific death, so that I could be raised to eternal life?

It not only becomes very clear, but also very humbling that there is nothing we can do by works, that is able to put us in a position by which we can stand before God or before Christ and say, "I have paid the debt." Salvation in Christ is certain, the only way anyone is going to be rejected by Christ is for them to reject him consciously and deliberately, all other things fall under the category of gaining some degree of reward or suffering some measure of loss, but regardless of the loss those who are in Christ will nevertheless be saved to eternal life as the following verses show:

- If anyone builds on the foundation (the Lord Jesus Christ) with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, they will receive a reward, but if anyone's work is burned up, they will suffer loss, though they will be saved, but only as through fire (1 Cor. 3:10-15).

**Three groups of people:** in regards to eternal salvation the Bible presents the following three groups of people:

1. We, referring to those already saved.
2. Those who are being saved.
3. Those who are perishing, referring to those who want nothing to do with God.

**To one a fragrance to death, to the other a fragrance to life:**

- **2 Corinthians 2:15-16:** For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, <sup>16</sup> to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things?

These words of Paul, reveal the power those in Christ have when sharing the good news of the Gospel, for there are only two responses:

1. Accept and receive eternal life.
2. Reject and continue the path to death eternal.

From death to death, or from life to life mean that those who reject Christ will at judgment go from mortal death to eternal death (i.e., cast into the lake of fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., total extinction), while those who accept Christ will go from mortal life to eternal life. This is why the Gospel is a fragrance of life to the ones hearing and believing it, but it is a fragrance of death to the ones hearing and rejecting it.

Based upon the following verse, some believe Christians are saved by works.

- **Romans 2:6-7:** He will render to each one according to his works: <sup>7</sup> to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.

Paul in this verse is not saying we will be saved by works, but that we will be judged according to our works and rewarded or suffer loss accordingly.

- **1 Corinthians 3:11–15:** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. <sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

Many also use the following words of James to support the theory we are saved by works:

- **James 2:14:** What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?
- **James 2:17:** So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- **James 2:20:** Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

Again, the same principle applies, the idea is not that we are saved by works, but that there should be outward works that evidence our inward faith. A simple example of this, is a person who says they are Christians, but have no interest in reading the Bible, no interest in fellowship etc., and live as they please, in this case, it is clear they are not saved, for there is no outward evidence of their inward faith. In contrast to these hypocritical believers, those who have true faith will enjoy reading the Bible, love Christian fellowship, endeavor (I say endeavor because none of us do this perfectly, to live a lifestyle that honors God and brings a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**CONCLUSION WORKS AND SALVATION:** we are saved by faith in Christ, and those who are saved will have outward works that evidences their faith. The following verses (there are many others) sum up the security of salvation of those in Christ:

- **Romans 20:20:** For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
- **Romans 20:21-23:** But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
- **Romans 20:28:** For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.
- **Galatians 2:16:** yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.
- **1 John 4:17:** By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.
- **1 John 4:18:** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

- **1John 5:13:** I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

These verses and the many others like them, shine a brilliant spotlight upon the truth of the following verse:

- **John 1:16:** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We have a marvellous hope, and should live a godly life in full expectation of receiving it, for this is the faith God wants us to live with.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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