

THE VALUE OF CHRISTIANITY
PART TWO
“THE CHARACTER OF GOD’S UNDERTAKING IN OUR SALVATION”
2 TIMOTHY 1:8-12

+++++

INTRO: **WHERE DOES THE VALUE OF OUR SALVATION LIE?** So often we talk about salvation, sing about salvation, and rejoice in our salvation, but we rarely stop to consider **where the value of our salvation lies**. That is, after receiving our wonderful salvation from the Lord, we often take it for granted! Right? I believe we would all do well to keep before us the fact that **THE VALUE OF OUR SALVATION SPECIFICALLY, AND CHRISTIANITY IN GENERAL, IS BASED UPON WHAT GOD DID TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO OBTAIN!** In other words, WE SHOULD ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL OF SALVATION IS **OF THE LORD** AND **NONE** OF IT IS OF US! Consider the following:

-GOD PLANNED SALVATION: In eternity past.

-Ephesians 1:4

-GOD PERFORMED SALVATION: Through Christ on the cross.

-Galatians 6:14

-GOD PROVIDES SALVATION: Through the Holy Spirit.

-Titus 3:4,5

-GOD PROTECTS SALVATION: Through His power.

-1 Peter 1:3-5

In providing salvation, **GOD COMPLETED 33 SUPERNATURAL ACHIEVEMENTS** which make our salvation possible and complete. We will be considering those achievements in our study later. But before we do, we must first consider **THE DIVINE CHARACTER OF THOSE ACHIEVEMENTS THAT MAKES OUR SALVATION VALUABLE**. They are 7 in number. In doing so, we will be reminded that **EVERY ASPECT OUR SALVATION IS OF, FROM AND ULTIMATELY FOR GOD AND HIS GLORY!**

+++++

THE CHARACTER OF GOD’S UNDERTAKING IN OUR SALVATION RESULTS IN THE FOLLOWING SEVEN REALITIES.

+++++

I. OUR SALVATION IS NOT BASED UPON EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE.

A. Our salvation is **REAL!** But it is not based upon how we feel, either at the **MOMENT OF SALVATION** or any time throughout our Christian life.

B. The reality of our salvation is **FACT!** For instance, consider one of the components of salvation, **JUSTIFICATION**. **JUSTIFICATION** means that **based upon the perfect and complete work of Christ on the cross, God the Father declares the new believer NOT GUILTY with respect to his sins.**

C. **NOTHING IS FELT WHEN GOD MAKES THAT DECLARATION.**

D. We know we are **JUSTIFIED** at salvation, because the Word of God says so, not because of what we feel. Note: Romans 5:1 **GOD DID IT!**

ILLUSTRATION:

II. OUR SALVATION IS NOT PROGRESSIVE

A. Even though certain our spiritual growth is progressive, the reception of salvation is not. **OUR SALVATION IS COMPLETE** at the very moment we receive Christ as Savior!

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, **SONSHIP!** The moment we are saved, **we are as much a child of God as we are after being saved for many years. WE ARE FULLY THE CHILD OF GOD IMMEDIATELY AT THE POINT OF OUR SALVATION.**

C. We know Children of God because the Word of God says so.

Note John 1:12 **GOD DID IT!**

ILLUSTRATION:

III. OUR SALVATION IS NOT RELATED TO ANY HUMAN MERIT.

A. This is hard for many to understand. We cannot not and we must not attempt to work for our salvation through good deeds.

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, THE MANY SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS we receive.

C. We know we have those SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS because God's Word says so. Note Ephesians 1:3 **GOD DID IT!**

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. OUR SALVATION IS ETERNAL IN CHARACTER

A. The eternity of our salvation is based upon Who God is! He is ETERNAL and what He does in our salvation is not based upon a whim or human experience. WHAT HE DOES IN OUR SALVATION, LASTS FOREVER!

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, ETERNAL SECURITY.

C. We know we have ETERNAL SECURITY because God's Word says so. Note John 10:27-30 **GOD DID IT!**

ILLUSTRATION:

V. OUR SALVATION IS BASED UPON BIBLICAL REVELATION

A. We cannot even begin to imagine what God has done for us through salvation. The ONLY way we know anything about it is because what the Scripture reveals to us.

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, RIGHTEOUSNESS.

C. We know we are made RIGHTEOUS because the Word of God says so.

Note 2 Corinthians 5:21

ILLUSTRATION:

VI. OUR SALVATION IS BASED UPON THE WORK OF GOD ALONE.

A. Every aspect of our salvation is a WORK OF GOD **ONLY!**

1. WHO CAN SAVE HIMSELF? **NO ONE CAN!**

2. WHO CAN MAKE HIMSELF A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN? **NO ONE CAN!**

GOD ALONE IS ABLE TO SAVE ACCORDING TO HIS OWN WORKING!

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, TRANSFORMATION FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT.

C. We know we are TRANSFORMED because the Word of God says so.

Note Colossians 1:13

ILLUSTRATION:

VII. OUR SALVATION IS BASED UPON GOD CONFORMING US INTO THE IMAGE OF HIS DEAR SON.

A. There is no one on earth who can conform himself into the image of Christ! Simply following the example of Christ and mimicking the works of Christ will do so! It is impossible. But God does it through our salvation.

B. Consider one of the components of our salvation, BEING COMPLETE IN HIM.

C. We know we are COMPLETE IN HIM because the Word of God says so. Note Colossians 2:9,10
ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON: The VALUE OF OUR SALVATION is based upon the fact that **GOD DID IT ALL!** We cannot and should not even attempt to glory in what we have done to receive our salvation, because GOD PLANNED IT, PERFORMED IT, PROVIDED IT, AND PROTECTS IT!

1) Thank God for what He has done in providing your salvation.

2) Serve God for what He has done in providing your salvation.

3) Worship God for what He has done in providing your salvation.

4) Obey God for what He has done in providing your salvation.