

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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Is Salvation Eternal?

One of the greatest blessings of God's salvation is the fact that it can never be taken from an individual, nor can an individual be deprived of it (Jn. 6:37). John wrote his gospel and comes to the apex of his book by writing, "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (Jn. 20:31). Two observations are made:

- a) That which had been written by John was true and had a two fold purpose:
 - i) "Believe that Jesus is the Son of God". This is an intellectual belief similar to a person who believes an aircraft can fly at great speeds. They can intellectually believe it, but until they get on the aircraft going somewhere, they will never go anywhere. To actively believe the aircraft can go at great speeds and they can get from London to Sydney in a matter of hours, they must get on the plane. Standing beside it, knowing what it can do, will never get anyone anywhere.
 - ii) "Believing ye might have life through His Name". This "believing" is a verb and action word. For salvation an individual must cast aside all personal endeavours to gain salvation such as religious rituals, good works, social good neighbourliness etc. Salvation is based on Christ alone, not Christ and the endeavours of an individual no matter how serious they are and noble the activities are. God offers eternal life as a gift and salvation is given by dependence on the finished work of Christ (Eph. 2:8-9).

The two questions:

Having completely put ones eternal destiny in the finished work of Christ:

- a) Can that salvation be taken off the individual by anything they do?
- b) Can God deprive the individual of salvation because of their past sins or present sinfulness?

Answer to the questions:

1) The answer is an affirmative "No"! There are several reasons for such an assurance and boldness:

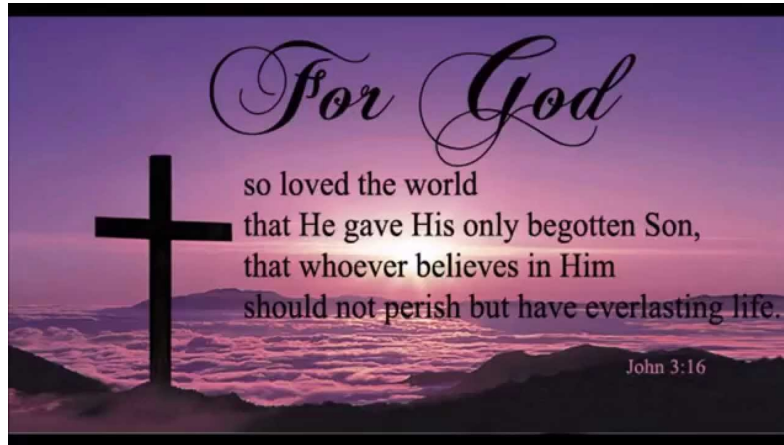
- a) God is not a liar (Titus 1:2).
- i) At the moment of accepting Christ as Saviour the individual enters a one sided covenant with God. Being a one sided covenant means that everything depends on one party of the covenant. It is not an "if you do this, I will do that". It is a covenant depending on God and the eternally finished work of Christ on the cross at Calvary. On that cross God looked on Christ, and knowing every sin each of us would ever commit, every iota of rejection of Him, every spurned entreating was afflicted on Christ at Calvary. The only way an individual could lose their salvation is by putting the Lord back in the grave, His body being kept in a dead state, nullifying the judgment of God on Christ and revoking every prophecy.

- ii) One may say, what about the sins I will commit in the future? The answer to the question about the sins of the future is, when the Lord suffered for the sins of the individual, all their sins were future.
- iii) At the moment of salvation the Spirit of God enters the individual and changes their spiritual positioning. They are put “in Christ,” that is, before salvation they have no refuge from the judgment of God like an individual void of any rescuing in the open ocean. God’s salvation is the only “lifeboat” that can save from the imminent danger. Being “in Christ”, He is the shelter from the wrath of God. The scriptures record a hiding place, “A man shall be as an hiding place” (Isa. 32:2), and that man is Christ.
- iv) No matter how deep dyed in sin, the incalculable number of them, or the damage they have done to others, the promise of God is, “Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (Jn. 6:37). Christ, who is the truth, never ever sent away an individual who sought His help. The blind man sat by the wayside, he could not see where Jesus was so he cried, “Jesus Thou Son of David have mercy on me?” (Mk. 10:47; Lk. 18:38). The Lord stopped walking, He heard the pleas of the man and did not leave him where he was. He healed him. Zacchaeus wanted to see the Lord as did Nicodemus. Zacchaeus climbed up a tree and Jesus came to where he was (Lk. 19:3-5). Nicodemus came to where Jesus was (Jn. 3:1-2), and none of them were rejected. When an individual comes to the Lord for salvation, He never asks about their past life, He knows all about it.

2) It is eternal.

- a) The Lord said, “I give unto my sheep eternal life and they shall never perish” (Jn. 10:28). John records, “He that believeth in Him hath eternal life” (Jn. 3:16). It is not might have or could have, but HATH, present tense. This is not presumption, it is believing God.

... Rowan Jennings



**SALVATION IS NOT YOUR
GOOD WORKS, RELIGION
OR RITUALS,
IT'S GOD'S WORK
ON THE CROSS.**

*For by grace are ye saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
Not of works, lest any man should boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV*

www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

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