

SAVED! Comfort in hard times

The message of salvation

Are you saved? Are you saved? This question arises in difficult times, especially when they bring to mind the near return of the Lord. If one listens around, then all Christians consider themselves saved! But Scripture warns against this (erroneous) faith. Paul and the apostles repeatedly admonish Christians to believe (only) in what they have explained and taught in the Epistles (1. Rom 1,9, 16,17; Gal 1,1,6 ff; 1,11; Col 3,16; Phil 4,9; 2 Thess. 2,15; 1 Tim 4,6.16; 6,3; 2 Tim 1,13; 2,15; 2,18; Titus 1,9; 1,15; 2,1; 3,10; Hebr. 6,11; 2 John 9). In almost every letter they warn against false doctrines and false teachers who lead to eternal perdition! Now how do I know whether I am saved or not? By self-suggestion or by intensive study of the Scriptures? But what does Scripture teach? I never find anything about that, in preaching about the gospel.

Scripture teaches that we are saved "by grace through faith in the perfect and multiple work of redemption of Christ". God has redeemed us through Jesus Christ from the slavery of sin and from the judgment of eternal damnation. HE has freed us

- from the kingdom of darkness, from judgment and eternal damnation,
- of the total sinfulness,
- from the prison of the law, and
- of the evil nature (of "sinful flesh") within us.

He has given us the Holy Spirit who transforms us in His image, He has given us a "new life", eternal and inalienable, He has given us a new divine nature, a new heart and a new mind, which does His will, loves our neighbor and does good to others! Everything is His work, nothing is our work! Faith in salvation from works, merits, efforts and struggles (against sin) despises grace and Christ's work of redemption and is consequently under the curse of God (Gal 5:4; 3:10).

If you believe in Christ's multiple work of redemption, in the Scriptures and in the Apostolic Creed, without ifs and buts, then you receive the Holy Spirit at conversion, then you are a child of God and saved once and for all! God has never demanded the Holy Spirit back from His children. Only those who have the "right faith", the "right teaching" and the "right love", and who show this in their lives, are saved. They will "fall asleep in faith" and be present at the Rapture. If you deny a part of Christ's work of redemption, then you make God a liar and Christ's work of redemption a torso. Therefore, stay away from people who teach another gospel; avoid the Super-GAU through a false gospel that plunges you into "eternal ruin" and does not save you! Study the Scriptures at home on your own! Amen.

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