

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

Ephesians 2:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Ephesians 2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Ephesians 2:7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Verse 5 is completed by the parenthesis (*by grace you have been saved*). Now verse 6 resumes the sentences with the Greek *kai* translated - *and*,

raised us up with Him. Actually the Holy Spirit produces the action of **raising us up together with Christ.** This introduces the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This begins the Church Age. The angelic conflict took an intensified turn when the Lord Jesus Christ was resurrected and ascended. So beginning in verse 6 we see what happened at the beginning of the Church Age and why the Church Age had to begin. Because Jesus was raised from the dead and because in His humanity He ascended as a member of the human race, into the presence of God the Father and therefore as a member of the human race, that is also as God, He was the God-man. He is now superior to all angels, fallen and elect.

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Now, the age of Israel is interrupted and now the Church Age begins! And the Church Age is now the intensification of the Angelic Conflict. And as we saw last week this is not the tribulation. The Tribulation is the end of the Age of Israel and the tribulation is one of the most awful periods in human history. It is the continuation of the age of Israel and the end of age of Israel.

But right now the Church Age is the intensification of the Angelic Conflict because Jesus Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father. Such a place is in

Hebrews 1:3 When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majestic on high

and

Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

And in 1 Peter 3:22 Angels were subjected to Jesus:

1 Peter 3:22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and power had been subjected to Him.

But why is Jesus not the target of Satan? Jesus had been the target of Satan throughout the Old Testament dispensation but He was no longer the target since He suffered on the cross; defeated Satan by His death; He rose from death and is now seated next to God the Father. Therefore, the

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Church, which is also the body of Christ, and someday to be the bride of Jesus became the target in throughout the Church Age.

Now in order that we might be properly entered into the intensified stage of the angelic conflict, verse 6 tells us that we have been raised up together with Jesus Christ and made to sit with Him.

So now verse 6 is a continuation of the sentence on the other side of the parenthesis of verse 5. With the parenthesis complete, now verse 6 resumes the sentence.

Ephesians 2:6 And has raised us up together with Him.

In verse 5 **we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Jesus.** The sentence continues saying **and have been raised up together with Him.** So the beginning of verse 6 is continued from verse 5 on the other side of the parenthesis. **Hath raised us up together** and by being **raised up together with Him** means we are in some way now identified with Jesus Christ in His resurrection and seated next to God the Father.

Jesus Christ died on the cross, then He was buried, then raised and then He was ascended into heaven and seated at the right hand of God.

Here is the glorified Jesus and the glorification of God the Father. John 17:1.

God the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead and God the Holy Spirit seated Jesus Christ as the Son. But the wonder is that the Holy Spirit raises us up with Christ, and this is called the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It is God the Holy Spirit who has raised us up together with Jesus Christ and this is the true meaning of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There was a baptism of the Jews who believed in Jesus as the Messiah since the time of John the Baptist until the beginning of the Church Age. Now we

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are physically on the earth but positionally we are in Christ on the right hand of God the Father. This is what intensifies the angelic conflict. Satan understands this better than most believers and this is why Satan does the best he can to confuse believers. This is the condition of the Body of Christ today with so much confusion among believers. This is why there are so many different denominations among believers and why so many are so confused about such things as loss of salvation and why some have the idea they are really superior to other believers.

So we must work on the doctrine of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Many people do not know or understand the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, but it is extremely important to all what happens at the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

I. Baptism of the Holy Spirit did not occur in the Old Testament nor in any of the previous dispensations. God the Holy Spirit did not baptize anyone into Christ in any previous dispensation.

II. Five Salvation ministries of the Holy Spirit.

(1) Regeneration: Salvation, or Eternal Life by the Holy Spirit:

Titus 3:5 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.

Jesus Christ explained salvation in

John 3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews;

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John 3:2 this man came to Jesus at night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

John 3:3 Jesus responded and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born from above he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

John 3:4 Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?”

John 3:5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit.

1 Peter 1:23 for you have been born again (began, to produce again) born again not of seed which is perishable, but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

- (2) Baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the baptism of the Holy Spirit, He entered believers into Union with Jesus Christ.

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Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now;

Also see 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5; Galatians 3:26-28.

- (3) Indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Galatians 4:6; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20

By the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit our bodies become a sacred Temple for the Indwelling of Jesus Christ as the Shekinah. Romans 8:9; John 7:37-39; 14:16-17. As we will see, Indwelling of the Holy Spirit is toward God while the Filling of the Holy Spirit is living in the world.

- (4) Sealing by the Holy Spirit Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 2 Corinthians 1:22.

God has placed a seal on every believer of Jesus Christ because you are valuable to God and you belong to God and no one can break this Seal...not even you by sin. The sealing ministry of the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of Eternal-Life in Christ.

- (5) Distribution of Spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:11.

This makes every believer important to the Body of Christ in the church universal. Every Spiritual Gift is vital to the local assembly.

You cannot lose any of these 5 Salvation ministries of the Holy Spirit. They are by God, not dependent on you. You did nothing to earn them, you can do nothing to lose them. You may not use the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit, you may not use your Spiritual Gift but they are there all the same and God never takes them back.

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III. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is first mentioned as a prophecy from the Lord Jesus Christ in

John 14:16 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, (Paracletos, one called alongside to be a comforter, advocate, Intercessor) so that He may be with you forever;

John 14:17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him; but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

and

Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

The Lord prophesied when the church Age would begin. The age of Israel would come to an abrupt halt after the death, burial, resurrection, ascension and session of Jesus Christ by God the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (Pentecost means '50' referring to 50 days resurrection) when believers were gathered in one group on the day of Pentecost in Jerusalem and they were put in union in Jesus Christ.

IV. The mechanics of the Baptism of the Spirit are explained in Acts 2 and 1 Corinthians 13:13

1 Corinthians 13:13 For by one spirit we were baptized into one body, whether Jews or

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Greeks, whether slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

God the Holy Spirit at the beginning of the Church age took those who were already saved in one locale, only in Jerusalem and entered them into union with Christ. Now, wherever one is, who believes in Jesus Christ, at that moment of faith they are entered into union with Christ. You are identified with Him forever and it is the ministry of God the Holy Spirit to enter you into union with Christ.

- (1) Baptism means identification and there four real baptisms or actual identifications, in the Bible.
 - (a) There is the baptism of Moses, 1 Corinthians 10:2, in which the Jews were identified with Moses in crossing the Red Sea. They went through day!
 - (b) The baptism of the cross in Matthew 20:22 is Christ identified with our sins on the cross, in fact Christ is judge for our sins as He bore them on the cross.
 - (c) The baptism of fire in Matthew 3:11 and Luke 3:16 is the unbeliever at the end of the tribulation cast off into burning, so that only born again believers begin the millennial reign of Christ. Here are the three actual baptisms, along with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which is God the Holy Spirit taking you at the moment of your salvation and entering you into union with Christ as He is seated at the right hand of the Father. It is not an experience.
- (2) There are also ritual baptisms related to water, there are three of these.

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- (a) The baptism of John where the water represented the Kingdom which John proclaimed and he baptized his converts by entering them into the water to show them that they were a part of this kingdom.
- (b) The baptism of Jesus Christ by John the Baptist was unique. The water represented God's plan for the incarnation and when Jesus Christ was baptized He was saying that 'I will go to the cross and fulfill the Fathers will.'
- (c) The baptism of believers in at least the early part of the Church Age, the apostolic age, indicates recognition of Christian belief before the completed canon Scripture. It is questionable whether baptism should ever go beyond the completion of the Canon of Scripture. Baptism is only mentioned once and then in a derogatory way in 1 Corinthians 1, but once the Canon of Scripture is completed, there is really nothing to indicate that baptism is perpetuated. It seems to have been a teaching aid while the Canon of Scripture was being completed. Baptism has been pushed way down in teaching the Word of God. Paul moved to the teaching of the Word of God. Multitude of people are more into baptism than for daily sitting down throughout one's life learning the word of God. Believers are to deal more with spiritual baptism, not a water baptism. So all believers, at the moment of salvation are entered into union with Christ. But so many believers use other things to be in union with Christ, like baptism or union to a denomination all instead of coming together to study and worship God.

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Hebrews 10:23 Let's hold firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;

Hebrews 10:24 and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds,

Hebrews 10:25 not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Every person who believes in Jesus Christ is designed to unity with one another in the word of God. So all of us at the moment of salvation were entered into union with Christ, whether slave or free, we are all in union with Christ. Whether a believer is successful or unsuccessful in human standards, regardless of race, color or creed all believers are entered into union with Christ and this is the only basis of unity in the entire Church Age. As Paul advanced Christianity throughout the world, he never even mentioned once to require baptism, but over and over he encouraged Christians to come together for the communion and to study the Word of God and to worship together.

This unity is expressed by a command to love one another. This means other members of the family of God encouraging each other in the Christian life.

The mechanics of baptism: God the Holy Spirit takes every believer at the point of salvation and enters him into union with Christ. This and the growth in the Word of God was far more important than any other activity between believers.

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Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

A few other passages teach the importance of Bible Doctrine more than other things. Psalms 34:3; Psalms 66:4 Hebrews 13:15; Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 12:28-28; Romans 12:1-2; Luke 4:8; Psalms 95:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; 1 Corinthians 14:15.

V. Definition of Baptism

- (1) Greek word is *baptize* and means to dip, to immerse, to submerge for a number of reasons.
- (2) This Greek word for our study in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the word metaphorically gives four basic ideals.
 - (a) Identification: By the Baptism of the Holy Spirit we are identified with Jesus Christ
 - (b) Induction: By the Baptism of the Holy Spirit we are inducted into the Body of Jesus Christ.
 - (c) XInitiation: By the Baptism of Jesus Christ we are initiated into the New Age or the Church-Age.
 - (d) Association: By the Baptism of the Holy Spirit we are placed into Association with Jesus Christ and all that He is.

VI. Characteristics of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

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First it is Universal---given to every person, any person who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior from the day of Pentecost to the Rapture of the Church.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Ephesians 4:4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

Ephesians 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Secondly: No one is to ask for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit nor to be baptized by the Holy Spirit. No where in Scripture are we instructed to ask for or seek or even desire the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It is a free gift from God to everyone who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior, it is received by grace.

Third: Baptism of the Holy Spirit is non-experiential. It does not come by spiritual growth nor is it associated with experiential or physical experience.

Fourth: The Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at the point of faith in Jesus Christ along with the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the Sealing by Holy Spirit, along with 33 other things you receive at the point of Salvation.

VII. The Unification of believers is achieved by the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

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Understanding of Ephesians 4:5 is very important. *One Lord, one faith, one baptism*

This has nothing to do with water baptism. It has only to do with baptism of the Holy Spirit and more with identification. *One Lord* we all have the same Lord, and it is not by something we do but He does it all. And Jesus Christ is the Lord of all and He is Lord whether you recognize Him or not. This happens wherever one is throughout the world, regardless of race, freedom, or in Communism, or Secular Humanism, Marxism, Cosmic Humanism or Post-Modernism. If one believes in Jesus Christ as their Savior they are in the One Lord, by One Faith under One Baptism—that is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We are not saved by inviting Jesus into our hearts, we are not saved by raising our hands or walking an aisle, by feeling sorry for our sins, we are not saved by anything we do. We are saved by faith alone in Christ alone. “One Lord, one faith, one baptism” and the one baptism occurs at the moment we believe in Christ. It is by entrance into union with Christ, it has nothing to do with water. A person may be in Communism and makes a decision to believe in Jesus Christ and tells no one, and does nothing but by faith. They are changed for all eternity. The implication of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit provides spiritual equality not any physical change.

VIII. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is unique to the Church Age.

This is one of the primary points on why the Church Age began on the Day of Pentecost recorded in Acts 2. Jesus Christ had to leave planet earth and be glorified by God the Father. Only then can we be baptized in Christ.

IX. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is distinct to the Church-Age, not the age of Israel

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Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be (future) baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Ten days to the Day of Pentecost recorded in Acts 2. Future to Jesus Christ departure from earth to the Throne of God in the Third Heaven.

Acts 11:15 “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.

Specifically identifying the beginning of the Church Age with the Baptism of the Holy Spiritual

Acts 11:16 “And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

X. Current Positional Truth.

Have you ever heard of Current Positional Truth? Well, the basis of Current Positional Truth is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Retroactive Positional Truth Ephesians 1:3-6; Colossians 2:12 and Romans 6:3-4 and Colossians 2:10. We are not only identified with Christ at the right hand of the Father, but we are identified with Christ in His death.

XI. Pertinent passages on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- (1) All four of the Gospels prophesied the coming of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 24:49; John 1:33 and Acts 1:5.

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- (2) Acts 2:1-4 records the historical beginning of Baptism of the Holy Spirit and therefore the beginning of the Church-Age.
- (3) 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 It is very important as to where Paul now speaks of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Corinthian church was splitting into factions over the issue of spiritual gifts. Overemphasis on certain spectacular gifts had led to the attitude that some believers had the more desirable gifts, while others had lesser gifts. In response, to this splitting issue, Paul exclaims, "We're all one!" Do not separate from One Another because of Spiritual Gifts. And to prove his point, he explains,

1 Corinthians 12:13 "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit"

- (4) Galatians 3:27

Galatians 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

For all of you who believe in Jesus Christ as Savio

who were baptized at the point of faith in Jesus Christ. A believer is baptized, or put into the body of Jesus Christ; the body of Jesus Christ is made up of believers all over the world.

into Christ, next we have yet another description of Baptism of Holy Spirit

have clothed yourselves with Christ. The cherished name 'Christian' started out as a derogatory remark meaning: 'little Christ.' The idea was you have no self-identity, you cannot

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think for yourself, you think like Jesus Christ. How I wish this were true of everyone who has believed in Jesus Christ.

(5) Ephesians 4:4-6;

Ephesians 4:4 There is one body (while the church is so divided between denominations and movements there is one universal body, the body of Christ) **and one Spirit**, (of referring to God the Holy Spirit) **just as also you were called in one hope/confidence of your calling;**

Ephesians 4:5 one Lord, (Jesus the Christ) **one faith**, (faith in Jesus Christ to enter into this body) **one baptism**, (which unites all believers)

Ephesians 4:6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

XII. Preparation for Battle

There are Two things every believer must have to live for Christ in this New Age of the Church.

1. Baptism of the Holy Spirit
2. Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Both of these Supernatural blessings occurred on the First Day of the Church.

Acts 1:4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me;

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Gathering them together, Jesus Christ gathering the disciples together, in Jerusalem before He ascended to God the Father.

He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait before they went out and tried to fulfill the Great Commission, or started spreading the Gospel or teaching, They were not yet prepared to serve Him or the Father.

for what the Father had promised, Promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit for both Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

“Which,” He said, you heard of from Me; recorded in the Gospels

Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

And then and only then will you be prepared to spread the gospel and start local churches. This New Age called the Church Age will be unique in history, No longer will there be a Special Race (Jews) or Special Nation (Israel) or even a promised land. This is a worldwide opening or an ‘Intensified Stage of the Angelic Conflict’ and you will all need these Special Preparations for the Conflict you are entering.

People you must understand and be aware of some of the differences between the Age of Israel and the Church Age. The Gospel is the same. Salvation is the same. However, the Warfare is much different. Now, in the Church-Age every born again believer is a target in the Church Age. You individually, your marriage, your family, your church, your spiritual life...all are under siege by Satan and his army of fallen angels. And to prepare you for this battle God had given each of us a number of spiritual weapons.

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1. He has Clothed us in Christ by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
2. He has equipped each one with the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit for **greater is He who is in you than He who is in the world** Satan (1 John 4:4). and
3. He has given us the completed Canon of Scripture (sorry, Mormons).

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture (Old Testament and New Testament) is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Give thanks to God everyday for Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the Bible; it is these three that enable you to live in Church-Age serving and glorifying Jesus Christ.

XIII. Results of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- (1) Everyone who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior is put into Union with Jesus Christ. This is what the word Baptism of the Holy Spirit means. And once you are put into union with Jesus Christ you can never be taken out. This is one of the things God does to guarantee us with eternal life; Once saved Always saved, Once Baptize Always Baptized in Christ. This is what Unifies every person around the world—we are each Baptized into Union with Jesus Christ.
- (2) By Baptism of the Holy Spirit every believer is put into the body of Jesus Christ 1 Corinthians 12:13.

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So the Baptism of the Holy Spirit: unites us with Christ and unites us with One Another. Therefore we are to love one another as Jesus Christ loves us and we are to serve One Another in Spiritual Love.

- (3) By the Baptism of the Holy Spirit every believer is made joint heirs of Jesus Christ As a result of being in union with Christ, we share what Christ has.
 - (a) We share His eternal life (1 John 5:11-12).
 - (b) We share His righteousness, Doctrine of Imputation of Righteousness.
 - (c) We share Christ's destiny under predestination. Jesus Christ is the only Predestined person in history and once we believe in Jesus Christ we share His destiny.
 - (d) We share Christ's election. Jesus Christ is the only one elected in history, God has chosen to elect anyone who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior.
 - (e) Jesus Christ, seated at the right hand of the Father, has a third royal title. We share in His royalty as His royal family.
 - (f) We become a new spiritual species, 2 Corinthians 5:17

XIV. Challenge of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- (1) This truth should give every believer confidence and identification in Christ, not in some denomination or church or some teacher, not even Paul. We are not Baptized into Paul.

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- (2) As we have seen we are all baptized into Jesus Christ. This should unify all believers. However, not surprisingly this truth has been used to divide so many Christians.
- (3) We have spent this time and gone through this study for you, for your knowledge and comfort, please do not use this information to divide people. I encourage you not to go into some group that has other views, like
 - (a) That the Church Age began with Paul or
 - (b) That you can lose your salvation or
 - (c) Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs sometime after initial Salvation. Referring to Second Experience or Second Blessing; or
 - (d) This is a special blessing that gives the person some special power to live the Christian Way of Life etc but do not use this information to cause trouble to divide people. Certainly, if you are in a position, refer to the truth of Baptism of Holy Spirit to show someone that they cannot lose their Salvation. ‘Comfort One Another with these Words’