

The Word of Truth

Ephesians 1:13 In Him, you also, after listening to the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of the promise,

In Him. That is, in Jesus Christ.

You also. You who have been the first to hope in Christ.

after listening to the word of truth. One of the greatest gifts from God in our creation is the gift of hearing. We must listen to the wonderful gift from God. We cannot get this gift without hearing it. Listening is important in our study of

Hebrews 5:11 Concerning him, we have much to say, and it is difficult to explain, since you have become poor listeners.

So many Christians are *poor listeners*, many because they are talkers! God has designed it that we must listen to the Word of God, being taught by the Word. The only way we will get the truth of the Bible is being taught. It is essential to life to know and live by the Word of Truth.

Ephesians 1:1 In Him you also after listening to the word of truth...

It is so difficult that in life, people spend the time working for money or having fun in life and miss out on listening to the word of Truth. People, we can go through life without wealth, we can even live without *freedom*, but to live your life without the Word of Truth, is to waste your life. To

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live and die without the Word of Truth is to waste your time here on this earth.

In Him, you also, after listening to the Word of Truth. Here the Word of Truth refers to the Word of the Gospel.

Hearing the Gospel, then believing the words of the Gospel, means you are *sealed* in Him. You have to hear the Gospel before you can be *sealed in Him*. You have to hear the Gospel; then believe the Gospel; then you are eternally sealed in Him.

In Him you also, after listening to the Word of Truth. And the Word of Truth is defined: *the gospel of your salvation* Here is the greatest Word you can hear –*the gospel of your salvation*. The Greek word *euaggelion* means **good news**

I am almost 80 years old, and yet the most wonderful news I heard was when I was 7 years old, and I was afraid about dying. That was when my mother gave me the simple good news about how easy and assuring salvation was. I pray that every parent gives this news to their own children, *the gospel of their salvation*.

Here is the great news everyone should hear. Here is the good news that Jesus came and took our place on the suffering cross, for taking our place in bearing our sins in His own body on the cross. So many people, never really have the fullness of the good news of the gospel. To most people the gospel is that we are sinners and the wages of sin is death. They are not quite sure what that means. They heard this. But people, this is *bad news*. The bad news is that we are sinners and under condemnation because of our sins. Sometimes it is best to give them the bad news first. The bad news will encourage them to hear the good news. Not many people really understand the bad news of death and the good news of how Jesus died on the cross in our place.

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The good news everyone should listen to is said in

1 Corinthians 15:1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, (here is what we just noted that this is what you want to listen to) **which you also received, (first you have to listen to the gospel) **in which you also stand,** (after you listen to the good news, you have to believe it)**

1 Corinthians 15:2 by which you also are saved, (here is how you are sealed in Him) **if you hold firmly to the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.** (not believe the Gospel)

1 Corinthians 15:3 For I handed down to you (listening to the Gospel) **as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,**

1 Corinthians 15:4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

We cannot move on without sounding forth, that everyone can listen to the *news of the gospel* of

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

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When we listen to the news of the gospel, we often are not aware of the fact that the gospel is absolutely unique. This is not something that man thinks up or dreamed up or pondered up by man. It is something that God has to reveal, something that the Holy Spirit must wake up our souls to. When Jesus Christ came to Adam and Eve in the garden, He did not find them coming up with thinking of some way to be saved. He found them trying to adjust to being with each other in this disaster. They came up with good deeds, fig leaves, which did not work and still today does not work. But there they were in the garden. And the Messiah came and gave them the good news of the gospel. He caused them to listen to the good news of the coming of the Savior. They *heard* the news of the seed of the woman. They did not, could not, think up this wonderful news about the coming of the Savior.

In Him you also, after listening to the Word of Truth. And the Word of Truth is defined:

the gospel of your salvation
having also believed
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There are books written on Salvation. We could spend months on the study on Salvation.

Sin is true and so important and Jesus Christ death on the cross is true. But people, the greatest news to hear is of salvation.

1. Salvation is the word of the cross.
2. Salvation is deliverance to eternal perfect righteousness. Therefore, salvation is about eternal fellowship with God.
3. Salvation secures from judgement.
4. Salvation is by Grace through faith.
5. Salvation is not by works.

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6. Salvation is the gift of 34 things that God gives at faith.
7. Salvation is the escape from eternal death.
8. Salvation is being eternally secure in Christ, having eternal security.

There are so many more blessings we can list on the blessings from salvation, but here are seven that starts our joy saved in Christ.

1. Salvation is the Word of the cross. This is straight from

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who being saved it is the power of God.

So we learn that salvation is the power of God.

2. Salvation is the deliverance of having perfect righteousness of God for all eternity. I am so sorry that so many pastors or those who write pamphlets on salvation write little on righteousness or even do not write about righteousness at all. They spend most of the time on the removal of sins. But people, everyone is removed from personal sins by Jesus Christ's work on the cross. But this is the negative of salvation. For salvation, we must have the positive of perfect righteousness of God. The great issue is how does the Word of God proclaim how we become righteous before God? We are never instructed to remove sins by faith but many times it is proclaimed that it is by faith that we receive the Righteousness of God.

Romans 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

This is the issue throughout the entire Bible. Note this all the way back to Abraham.

Romans 4:9 Is this blessing then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, “Faith was credited to Abraham as righteousness.”

Romans 4:22 Therefore it was also credited to him as righteousness

And this is proclaimed about salvation by faith for righteousness over and over throughout the Bible.

3. Salvation secures us from judgment.

Please understand that there is judgement from the Holiness of God for sin, but faith in Jesus Christ secures from judgment.

John 3:18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Now we should go through a long study on being judged for not believing in Jesus Christ.

John 3:36 The one who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son (that is who does not believe in the Son) will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

Here is the real issue in Salvation. Either believe on Jesus Christ as Savior or spend eternity in judgment from God.

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John 11:25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live, even if he dies,

Every believer who dies physically before the rapture, actually will live forever with Jesus Christ. But everyone who will not believe in Jesus Christ is judged from God.

Romans 3:28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

Here again being justified means that this person will not be judged by God for failure of believing in Jesus Christ. One is either judged by God or justified by God. Being judged is one who has no salvation in them. Being justified is one who is saved by faith in Jesus Christ.

Something that everyone should be aware of, is believing or not believing in Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life

Or more accurately of this verse:

John 3:16 (Revised Translation) “In this manner, indeed God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Everyone who does not believe in Jesus Christ will be judged by God and the judgement is to perish eternally in the eternal fire.

4. Salvation is by grace through faith.

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Faith is the only system of perception which is totally devoid of any human merit. Only the object has merit, and in salvation the object of faith is our Lord Jesus Christ. How much faith does it take to be saved? Just a little bit more than no faith at all. Ephesians 2:8.

John 6:47 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.

Romans 3:22 even righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe

5. Salvation is by no works from man. The salvation, by work of Christ on the cross, excludes anything being added to faith. Ephesians 2:9. Salvation by works is blasphemy and not salvation.
6. Salvation is the gift of God.

Ephesians 1:13 deals with listening and asking for the gift of salvation is seen in

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

Here the Samaritan Woman is talking to Jesus about Him who knew the gift of God, that is the gift of Salvation.

Romans 3:24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus,

The Gift of our salvation is justified by His grace.

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Romans 5:15 and verse 17

Romans 5:17 For if by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

We have seen that Salvation is righteousness and here it is declared as a grace gift to us by grace through faith.

The next gift contains two parts in this gift from God.

Hebrews 6:4 For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit,

Here the gift is called the *heavenly gift* but also includes the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is also noted as the gift in Acts 3:38 and 10:45.

7. Salvation is the gift from eternal death.

Romans 6:8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him

The assurance of this is found in the correct reading of verse 8

Romans 6:8 (Revised Translation) Now since we have died with Christ we believe that we shall also live with Him.

Another assurance of our gift from eternal death is found in:

Colossians 3:3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

This life is not something that we will receive when we die but it is given to every believer at the moment of faith in Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by His wound you were healed.

Again, we learn that while we have the assurance that we will not die but live to eternity, we have eternity with His perfect righteousness.

Another assurance of the gift from death but to live forever with Christ.

Romans 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.

There is similar wording in Colossians 2:12.

8. Salvation is being eternally secure in Christ, having eternal security. This is what we are seeing in Eph. 1:13 where we are *sealed in Him*.

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