

# Perfect Salvation

*Pastor Anthony J Shetley  
Sunday, August 21, 2022*

God's love + His Son + His cross + His word + His body (the church) + His resurrection  
= His Perfect Salvation

Colossians 1:13–23

“For He (God) has rescued us from the domain of darkness.” (Col. 1.13)

Darkness comes from the absence of light which is equated with knowing God, knowing truth, possessing understanding and wisdom concerning God and the righteousness of God – seeing and knowing God's will.

Jesus made a reference to the eye being the lamp or light of the body. If one's eye is single, clear, and/or healthy (20/20 vision) the whole body will be filled with a perfect light. However, anything less is not perfect light. In fact, it is a measure of darkness.

*“If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”* (Jesus, Christ - Matthew 6:23)

1 John 1:5–6

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth

To know God, we must have **perfect light** - absolute truth. This light was and is His Son, Jesus Christ.

*“I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness but will have the Light of life.”* (Jesus, Christ - John 8:12)

Some had come to Colosse with other ideologies, philosophies, and teachings beyond Christ as a means to be rescued from darkness.

Colossians 2:23

<sup>23</sup>These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.

The church at Colosse had been **rescued**; forcibly snatched away from the reign of sin and darkness over them by placing their faith in Jesus to be Christ promised in the holy scriptures.

Christ alone had set them free. They had received “Peace with God through the blood of His cross.” (v20)

We have begun in the Spirit and we must not seek to finish in the flesh.

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, **the pioneer and perfecter of faith**. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Salvation in Jesus Christ is **a perfect salvation**! His salvation is a complete work. He has the power to save us, keep us, and see us safely to eternal life.

We must believe upon Him, trust Him, obey Him, and follow Him alone.

## Warnings

Deuteronomy 32:17–18

<sup>17</sup>“They sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known, new gods who came lately, whom your fathers did not dread. <sup>18</sup>“You neglected the Rock who begot you and forgot the God who gave you birth.

2 Timothy 4:3–4

<sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

In vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men. (Jesus, Christ - Mark 7:7)

Paul’s exhortation.

Colossians 1:22–23

<sup>22</sup>yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach— <sup>23</sup>if indeed you **continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel** that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

God’s love + God’s Son + His cross + His word + His body (the church) + His resurrection  
= His Perfect Salvation