

A Glorious Guarantee

Sunday, February 19, 2023 - Ephesians 1:11-14

“Can your salvation be lost, or is it secure in Christ?”

EPHESIANS 1:11-14

To the praise of His Glory... Multiple Times (2x)

We and then **YOU**... Paul/apostles and then “you,” the believers that would follow.

If God could save Paul (Who was the worst of all sinners) then God could save anyone.

1 Timothy 1:15-16 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, **that in me** first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

It was done “to the praise of His glory”

Paul didn't turn Paul's life around. Jesus turned Paul's life around.

1 Timothy 1:17b ... to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever.

Hints towards Salvation by faith, not by works.

Works-based vs. non-works-based (Boast in self.)

We are continuing in the same passage or theme that was laid out for us last week

“God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places ”

In Him also we have obtained an ***inheritance***:

Inheritance: pre-selected allotment

Similar to how you determine in advance what you give your kids.

Our Inheritance;

- Chosen
- Made holy & blameless
- Adopted
- Redeemed
- Forgiven
- **Sealed**
 - Sealed by the Holy Spirit
 - TO THE PRAISE OF ***HIS*** GLORY

What is funny is that Paul now tells them the account or progression of their own testimony.
There is your personal story that is uniquely yours
There is the road to Salvation that every believer has traveled down & in turn, unifies us

Truth claim

13a The Word of TRUTH

Gospel: The wonderful, unmatched message and story of God.

The Bible is not about you, it is to you, but it is about Him.

Word of truth **OR** the TRUE WORD

Anything that does not fit into the grand story of God's redemption is not true.

Like the child's toy where they learn shapes only fit into shaped holes.

What does it mean to me = unbiblical teachings/understandings.

Extra-Biblical Lies that Jesus BECAME a god, Galatians 1 claims

Unbiblical expectations of heaven that really just satisfy the sin nature of mankind.

Inter Biblical fallacies, or, 1/2 truths...

- * **Reformed Predestination**
- * **Works-based salvation**
- * **The ability to lose your salvation**

GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION = THE (SINGULAR) TRUTH!

The road to salvation starts w/ HEARING the Word = someone SPEAKING the Word.

Then you Trusted in HIM whom you **Believed** in. (Jesus)

Believe: to observe and acknowledge as true or real.

James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe - and tremble!

Eph. 1:13 if there is an "after" you believed, there must be a, "before" you believed.

Point of conversion

- * Is real
- * Is a result of hearing and believing

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, **nor any other** created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Trust is to adjust your life and live differently because of what you believe.

Preppers

IN HIM YOU TRUSTED = Salvation by grace and faith (leaving out works)

Trust: To hope or have confidence in something (before it is confirmed by an event.)

Engaged, not married yet but blending finances, renting an apartment, etc.

All of this is because you "trust" that they are the one.

Singular point of trust... works based Salvation leads to Salvation kept by works.

TRUST ALWAYS LEADS TO ACTION (is the cause of the action not the result of it.)

Faith without works is dead...

This is where the claws come out and someone will vehemently want to debate and argue that someone can lose their salvation. Heresy – deviation from the truth.

YOUR GLORY... NO BOASTING

If it were kept by works... it would be to the praise of *your* glory... but it's not.

Vague and illusive standards

If Salvation were works or performance-based... God has been awfully vague in what the standards are.

There is no clear description and so, we are left coming up with our own rules and regulations which give you a *FALSE sense of authority* but no real assurance.

Trading places with God

Turning Judgmental... Bible says

It is a sliding scale and you put yourself in the place of God, deciding where the cutoff is.

[RACA](#)

James 4:12 There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

What about the LAW?

Glad you asked... it was to show us that we could never be good enough.

Galatians 3:24-25 Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

The entire point of the Law/Rules was to show us that we cannot be saved by keeping the rules.

The Keeping Power of God

*Kept by the power of **God**, not by the power of being a **good** person*

1 Peter 1:3-4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Dismembering The Body

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God *are irrevocable.*

Many members but one body... does God ever mutilate and dismember the body? (NO)

So... just sin it up?!

So what about sin now? Can you just do what you want?

No carnal Christians

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Galatians 5:19-21

You will lose your appetite for the things of the world.

The sanctifying power of God (Desire and enjoyment of sin dry up)

You think that THE HOLY SPIRIT is going to move into your life, literally indwell the very essence of who you are, and be ok living in sin? (He is going to clean up – no matter how dirty the house is.) – **Desire may not go all the way away but you will have the desire to get away from that desire.**

So what does sin do now?

Isaiah 59:2 your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

Relationally... fellowship with the Father = joy (1 John)

Do not diminish the discipline of God toward those He loves.

Proverbs 3:12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.

The Departed

There are those who will depart but they were never part of us

1 John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. (*friendly, board/social, self gratifying*)

Gift vs. Reward... gift of God vs. reward for doing a good job

Father in Heaven... could you imagine, you are now adopted and this new Father before you walk out the door in the morning, looks at you and says... I love you, I gave everything so you could be in this home with Me, but if you mess up today then you are out of this family and on your own. (Not only does He say that, but He does not say what He means by "messing up.") That would be an extremely unhealthy, abusive, and toxic environment.

Adopted

Made Holy & Blameless

Accepted

Redeemed

Forgiven

SEALED

SEALED

Heard the Word of Truth
Believe what The Word Said
Trust in Whom The Word Said
Sealed by The Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:13b-14

In Whom having believed (Past Tense)
You were sealed (Past Tense)

Sealed (sphragizo) to impress or stamp, to conceal for someone else,
(Federal crime to open your neighbor's mail)

Up to a quarter of a million dollars and 5 years in a federal prison

Matthew 27:66 So they went and made the tomb secure, **sealing** the stone and setting the guard.

– It showed who sealed it and whom it was sealed for (ROME)

Revelation 5:1-3 And I saw in the right *hand* of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?” And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

GUARANTEE - The permanency of the promise/gift

THE HOLY SPIRIT is the guarantee (He won't fail)

Guarantee: downpayment (I'm taking the whole thing)(Earnestness – earnest money down)

Inheritance (2x)

2 Corinthians 5:5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

You don't guarantee it... God does...

2 Timothy 1:9 who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, **not according to our works**, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

God the Holy Spirit guarantees it

A guarantee is only as good as the one making it

How long are we sealed?

There is an end date:

Until the redemption of the purchased possession

You have been purchased but we are waiting to be redeemed (delivered to Christ)

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

Colossians 1:14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 14:b – To the praise of His glory!

It is so glorious that we praise (Worship is easy if we understand what He did)

If you could lose it, it wouldn't be that glorious.

If it could be taken from you, He wouldn't be that glorious

Not to the praise of OUR glory.

PRAISE: 3x in the opening expression of this letter.

In Contrast to the fear of worship of demonic entities and worship of idols.

If someone saved you from drowning, got you new clothes, checked on you later to see if you were doing ok, contact your family for you, got you hot coffee or chocolate, etc. (Honor, admiration, thankfulness, - you wouldn't go key his car right? You wouldn't ignore advice about staying away from frozen ponds right?)

Hearing to Believing

Believing to Trusting

Trusting to Sealing
