

THE FREENESS OF SALVATION

Isaiah 55:1-7

Article VI

“The Free Offer of the Gospel”

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent, and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation

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1. “*The blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel*”

55 “Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Isaiah 55:1

ESV

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

ESV

2. “*It is the immediate duty of all to accept them*”

6 “Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

Isaiah 55:6

ESV

² For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is
the day of salvation.

Neutrality is not an option.

Delay is not harmless.

To hear and not respond is a response

3. “*By a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith*”

“It is faith alone which justifies, and yet the faith which justifies is not alone: just as it is the heat alone of the sun which warms the earth, and yet in the sun it is not alone, because it is constantly conjoined with light.” John Calvin

4. “*Nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth*”

“There is more mercy in Christ than sin in us.”
Charles Spurgeon

5. “But *his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel*”

19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. **20** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

6. “*Which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation*”

³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,

Hebrews 2:3

ESV

20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

John 3:20

ESV

6 “Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

7 let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have
compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Isaiah 55:6–7

ESV

Grace is free—but it is never casual.

“We contribute nothing to our salvation other than the sin that made it necessary.” Jonathan Edwards

“Even me.”

