

Work Out Your Own Salvation

TEXT: Phil. 2:12-13

INTRODUCTION:

- A. LAST LESSON – THE MIND OF CHRIST – HUMBLE, OBEDIENT.
- B. JESUS WAS HIGHLY EXALTED FOR THIS ATTITUDE.
- C. WE ARE TO WORK OUT OUR OWN SALVATION. WHAT IS INVOLVED?

I. “WORK OUT.”

- A. **katergazomai**, “Bring about, produce, or create.” – A&G. “Work out, achieve, Effect by toil.” – Vine. Something I must do to bring about my own Salvation. It doesn’t mean “figure out.” (**Jer. 10:23**; **Prov. 16:25**).
- B. MAN IS IN NO WAY HIS OWN SAVIOR, BUT HE SAVES HIMSELF(**Acts 2:40**).
- C. JESUS IS THE ONLY PROVIDER OF SALVATION(**Acts 4:12**).
- D. THOUGH WE MUST WORK OUT OUR SALVATION, IT IS NOT DESERVED. WE ARE SAVED BY GRACE(**Eph. 2:8-9**).
- E. HOW DOES GRACE SAVE?
 - 1. Provides a sacrifice(**Rom. 3:23-26**).
 - 2. It instructs us(**Titus 2:11-12**).
- F. THERE IS SOMETHING I MUST DO(**James 1:21-22**; **Matt. 7:21**).
- G. IT IS NOT OF ME OR DESERVED BY ME.

II. “YOUR OWN SALVATION.”

- A. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
 - 1. Jesus did his part – so must I(**James 1:21-22**).
 - 2. As Christ was glorified at the conclusion of his work, so will we. When?
 - 3. Our salvation will be determined by what we have done(**2 Cor. 5:10**).
- B. PAUL IS TALKING OF THE END RESULT OF OUR FAITH. WE ARE SAVED IN THE SENSE OUR SINS ARE GONE, BUT WE AREN’T IN HEAVEN YET (**1 Pet. 1:9**).

III. “WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING.”

- A. GREAT DANGER (**1 Pet. 5:8**).
- B. GREAT RESPONSIBILITY – THE ETERNAL SOUL(**James 3:1**).
- C. SPEAKS OF OUR REVERENCE FOR GOD (**Heb. 12:28-29**).

IV. WHY? “FOR IT IS GOD WHO WORKETH IN YOU.”

- A. GOD WORKS IN US.
 - 1. We are his agents – God works as we work!
 - 2. We are now his servants rather than sin’s(**Rom. 6:12-13, 17-18**).
- B. “BOTH TO WILL AND TO WORK.”
 - 1. A sacrifice of our wills for God’s will(**1 Pet. 4:1-2**).
 - 2. God’s promise is the Power behind our wills(**2 Cor. 5:1-7**).
 - 3. Whatever God asks we can do (**Phil. 4:13**).
- D. “FOR HIS GOOD PLEASURE.”
 - 1. **eudokia**, “good pleasure, implies a gracious purpose, a good object.” – Vine.

2. God energizes us to do his will and make it our own.
 - a. It is God's plan, his wisdom that reigns in us (**Isa. 55:8-9**; **Gal. 2:20**).
 - b. God gives the knowledge (**2 Tim. 3:16-17**; **2 Pet. 1:3**).
 - c. He gives the wisdom (**James 1:5**).
 - d. He gives the fortitude (**Eph. 6:10-13**).
 - e. To Him goes the Glory (**1 Pet. 4:10-11**).
3. His good pleasure is for our salvation, not his entertainment.

CONCLUSION:

- A. JESUS HAS THROUGH GRACE PROVIDED SALVATION.
- B. BUT WE MUST WORK IT OUT.
- C. WHEN WE DO OUR PART, GOD PROVIDES THE STRENGTH WE NEED.
- D. ARE YOU WILLING TO DO THAT?
 1. To obey the Lord for salvation's sake?
 2. To be his instrument in accomplishing His Good Pleasure?