

Those Who Want Me To Be Saved

By Marc W. Gibson

It may be that you understand the plan of salvation and why you need to obey it, but are hesitating for one reason or another. Perhaps knowing about those who want you to be saved will help encourage you to take that important first step. Dear friend, do you realize just how many want you to be saved?

1) GOD – Yes, of course, God wants you to be saved. You are the focus of his grand scheme of redemption since sin entered this world. It is God who “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4). “All men” includes everyone because “all have sinned” (Rom. 3:23). God gave His only begotten Son so that everyone who believes might have everlasting life (John 3:16). The Creator of all things wants you to be saved! Why do you wait?

2) ANGELS – Did you know the angels want you to be saved? Jesus said, “Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents” (Luke 15:10). Why does this angelic joy happen? Because the angels want sinners to be saved, and are jubilant when it happens. The angels understand how wonderful God’s plan is, and how important it is for man to obey. They are eager to rejoice for you and with you!

3) CHRISTIANS – Those who are saved want you to join their number. One more person saved is a victory for truth and a defeat to Satan. Paul stated that his “heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved” (Romans 10:1). Paul told King Agrippa that, “I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am [a Christian, mwg]...” (Acts 26:29). Christians desire your salvation more than you may realize. They are praying for you – will their prayers be answered?

4) THOSE BEYOND THE GRAVE – Even those we knew on this earth that have died (family, friends, etc.) want us to be saved. Jesus provided such a scene when He spoke of a rich man who died in sin, and lifted his eyes in Hadean torment (Luke 16:22-23). Understanding his dreadful situation, his concern quickly turned to his five living brothers whom he knew were not saved (vv. 27-28). He begged Abraham to send Lazarus to them, but was told that his brothers had all they needed to be saved – God’s word. All those beyond the grave want you to be saved, whether they made the right choice or not. You must act to save your own soul, and God’s word will show you the way. Did you realize that so many want you to be saved? Of course, it is still your decision and yours alone. But, obviously, being saved is the right choice. With so many desiring your salvation, what hinders you from making the right decision?

“Improving” the Gospel

"Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ." (Col. 2:8) "Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the Head..." (Col. 2:18-19) "Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth" (Titus 1:14).

On a cold winter day in 1986, Diane Elsroth entered a store in Bronxville, New York looking for something to relieve her pain. She bought a bottle of medicine, not knowing that someone had opened the bottle's tamper-resistant wrapping, tainted the capsules with cyanide, and returned them to the store's shelf. Within a short time after Elsroth left the store, the cyanide-laced capsules killed her.

Like a medicine mixed with cyanide, a perverted gospel brings condemnation rather than making us whole in Christ.

Good Times, Shallow Roots

"As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving" (Col. 2:6-7). "...Yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles" (Matt. 13:21).

"I was talking with a farmer about his soybean and corn crops. Rain had been abundant, and the results were evident. Thus, his comment surprised me: "My crops are especially vulnerable. Even a short drought could have a devastating effect." "Why?" I asked. He explained, "Though we see the frequent rains as a benefit, during that time the plants are not required to push roots deeper in search of water. The roots remain near the surface. A drought would find the plants unprepared and quickly kill them." (By Neal Orchard)

Likewise, some Christians receive abundant blessings, fellowship, and teaching; however, when hardship, tribulation, or persecution enters their lives, they suddenly quit the Lord. Their roots have never pushed below the surface. Only those who are deeply rooted and grounded in the Lord will endure when tribulation and persecution comes.

A Moments Wisdom

- When the need is highest, God is nighest.
- Do unto others as though you were others.
- Fear that man who does not fear God.
- When you drink from the stream, remember the spring from whence it flowed.
- A man is judged to be good by the positive qualities he possesses, not by the absence of faults.
- If you chase two rabbits, both will escape you.
- Who seeks more than he needs hinders himself from enjoying what he has.
- The guilty catch themselves.
- Habits are cobwebs at first, cables at last.
- By taking the first step with a good thought, the second step with a good word, and the third step with a good deed, I enter happiness.
- Hasty climbers have sudden falls.
- Hatred is its own punishment.