

God Intends for All to be Saved

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

I. GOD WANTS TO SAVE US

- A. Many folks have a troublingly mistaken view of God
 - 1. "Do you think I can be forgiven of my sin?"
 - 2. "How can I know I've been forgiven?"
 - 3. "I am afraid that I might have overlooked something and God is going to condemn me for doing something I didn't know was wrong."
- B. At the core of these concerns is a misunderstanding about God.
 - 1. Many imagine God as harsh and unrelenting, just waiting for them to slip up so He can punish them.
 - 2. They do not trust or remember God's love, and need ongoing, new assurances. Dysfunctional love
- C. After talking about those who return to sin - Heb. 6:4-6
 - 1. The writer reminds us that God wants us to be saved - Heb. 6:9-20
 - 2. That the world continues is a testimony of God's patience - 2Peter 3:9
 - 3. God's goal has always been the salvation of every person - Ez. 18:23

II. GOD UNRESERVEDLY BLESSES US

- A. Psalm 103:2-5 - We occasionally forget why we became children of God.
 - 1. Because God gave us salvation we could not afford - Rom. 5:8
 - 2. Because He loved us when we were unlovable - John 3:16
 - 3. He took the initiative to love us before we knew Him - 1John 4:10
- B. He pardons all our iniquities
 - 1. The Lord cleanses us from all unrighteousness - 1John 1:9
 - 2. There is no sin God cannot forgive or is unwilling to forgive
 - 3. If a sin is unforgiven, then it is because we, not God, who will not let go of the sin or humble ourselves before God - Rom. 6:17; Heb. 5:9
 - 4. The invitation to be free from sin is always offered - Rev. 22:17
- C. He heals all of our diseases
 - 1. Physical disorders are not what David is talking about, though God did design the human body and provided us with the capacity to recover from illness, and He answers prayer for healing.
 - 2. David is referring to recovery from the burden and harm of our sins
 - a. Sin damages us - Psalm 38:3-4, 6, 8
 - b. God provides the cure - Psalm 107:17-20
 - c. He relieves us of the emotional anguish we inflict on ourselves - Psalm 147:3
- D. He redeems our lives
 - 1. We sold ourselves into sin - Rom. 7:14, 24
 - 2. We willingly sold ourselves for nothing - Isa. 52:3
 - 3. God bought us back, paying an unimaginable price - 1Peter 1:18-19
- E. He crowns us with nobility
 - 1. With a crown of glory - 1Peter 5:4
 - 2. With a crown of life - James 1:12

3. With a crown of righteousness - 2Tim. 4:8
 4. God invites us to reign with Him - Rev. 3:21
- F. He satisfies us with a fulfilling life; the principle is that as we grow older on the outside, we become younger on the inside.
1. A life that is fresh and flourishing - Psalm 92:13-14
 2. A life of persistent energy - Isa. 40:31
 3. Our outward man declines while inward man is refreshed - 2Cor. 4:16
 4. God satisfies us with goodness - Psalm 65:4
 5. God fills us with good - Psalm 104:28, 107:9

III. GOD UNCEASINGLY WORKS WITH US

- A. God's activity on our behalf - Psalm 103:6-13
1. God brings justice to the oppressed
 - a. God cares for the least of His people - Psalms 72:4, 146:7
 2. God teaches us about His will - Psalm 19:7-11
 - a. We aren't left to guess what God requires of us - 2Peter 1:3
 3. God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, merciful - Ex. 34:6-7
 4. God does not give up on us - Isa. 57:16
 - a. He delights in mercy - Micah 7:18-19
 - b. He gives us less than we deserve; otherwise, we would not survive - Psalm 130:3
 - c. He punishes us, but much more lightly than what we have earned - Ezra 9:13
 5. God thoroughly forgives us - Jer. 50:20; Isa. 43:25; 1John 1:7; Mal. 3:17

IV. GOD UNENDINGLY LOVES US

- A. God's love is permanent - Psalm 103:14-18
- B. God knows the limitations of humankind
1. We don't live very long - Psalm 78:39; Isa. 40:6-8; James 4:14
 2. In contrast, God's compassion is permanent, everlasting love - Jer. 31:3
 - a. Evidence of our eternal spirit: our bodies die in this world after a few years, but God's love for us is forever. Would any rational being love something forever that only lasts for a few moments?
- C. God never stops loving us - Psalm 100:5

V. GOD WILL SAVE US

- A. "Will God save me?"
1. God can do no less and remain faithful to His character
- B. "Is God going to condemn me if I have missed something?"
1. If you are walking in the light, living by His word, learning and growing every day; if you confess and correct your sins when you learn of them; then, God knows you. He knows what you understand. He knows your limits, and He is rich in compassion and mercy - 1John 1:5 - 2:2
- C. "How can I know I've been forgiven?"
1. We can see, know, believe, trust, and remember all that God has given and done to forgive our sins and save us eternally - 1John 2:3-6