

IN NO OTHER PRESENT SALVATION

Ac.4:10-12; Eph.1:3

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Use #1 through #5 of previous lesson
2. Use B. of previous lesson: The meaning of the frequently used and highly significant phrase “in Christ” or “in Christ Jesus”.
3. Now, the next step in the study of our theme “**IN NO OTHER**”:

II. DISCUSSION

D. WE HAVE PRESENT SALVATION IN CHRIST AND *IN NO OTHER*.

1. Our English word “salvation” is a translation of the original Greek term *SOTERIA* – (*SO-TAY-REE’-AH*), meaning:
 - a. “Rescue, deliver, save,” Strong, #4991.
 - b. Young’s Analytical Concordance, p.832: “safety, soundness
 - c. Thayer, p.612:
 - (1) “Deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation.”
 - (2) “In an ethical sense, ‘that which conduces to the soul’s safety or salvation,’” Lk.19:9; 2Pet.3:15.
 - (3) “In the technical biblical sense, the Messianic salvation,” Ac.4:12; Heb.2:3.
 - (4) “Salvation as the present possession of all true Christians,” 2Tim.2:10.
 - d. W. E. Vine, III, 316:
 - (1) “Of the spiritual...deliverance granted...by God to those who accept his conditions...in the Lord Jesus, in whom alone it is to be obtained, Ac.4:12...; for this purpose the gospel is the saving instrument, Rom.1:16,17; Eph.1:3.” Cf. 1Cor.15:1,2.
 - (2) “Inclusively, to sum up all the blessings bestowed by God on men in Christ through the Holy Spirit,” e.g., 2Cor.6:2; 2Tim.2:10; Heb.5:9; 1Pet.1:9,10; Jude 3.
 - (3) “Is metaphorically described as a helmet,” Eph.6:17.
2. Since **ALL** spiritual blessings are in Christ – not one is outside Christ – and since being saved or salvation from past sins is included among the many spiritual blessings found only in Christ, it along with all other such blessings can be found **IN NO OTHER!** Ac.4:11,12; Eph.1:3; 2Tim.2:10.

3. The N.T. of Christ, the gospel of Christ, the faith of Christ and the doctrine of Christ, all of which are one and the same, teach that present salvation for the sinner is in Christ and in his church, the church of Christ, or the church belonging to Christ, which is his spiritual body, of which there is only one, i.e., if one is saved at all it will be because that one is in Christ and in his church, his spiritual body. Proof:
- a. The gospel of Christ is God's power unto the salvation of believers, Rom.1:14-17.
 - (1) It is not by the works of the law, Rom.3:19-28; Gal.2:16.
 - b. The gospel, the faith of Christ, that which the apostles of Christ preached, must be preached, heard, believed and obeyed by the sinner in order for the sinner to be saved, Mk.16:15,16; Ac.10:1-6; 11:1-14; Rom.1:5; 10:11-17; 16:25,26; Heb.11:6; Mt.7:21-23; 1Pet.4:17,18; Heb.5:8,9; Gal.1:23.
 - c. Only when one by faith obeys the gospel from the heart (that is, with sincerity and understanding) is one saved from past sins, Rom.6:16-18; Cf. Col.3:23.
 - d. God will take vengeance on all who do not believe and obey the gospel, 2Th.1:6-10.
 - e. When one has heard, believed and obeyed the gospel, he is then saved from past sins; he has been baptized into Christ, and the Lord himself has added him to his church, his spiritual body, of which there is only one, Mk.15:16; Ac.2:21,36-41;Rom.6:3-6;Gal.3:26,27;Ac.2:47;Eph.1:22,23; Col.1:18,24; Eph.4:4-6.
 - f. According to Rom.6:3-8:
 - (1) One by faith is "baptized into Jesus Christ," where salvation is, 2Tim.2:10.
 - (2) One by faith is "baptized into his death," i.e., the benefits of his death.
 - (3) One is "therefore...buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."
 - (4) "...if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."

- (5) Having been baptized into his death and raised to walk in newness of life, “our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.” Cf. Rom.6:1,2; Cf. Col.2:12,13.
- (6) “If we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.” Cf. vv.9-13.
- (7) We are none of these, have none of these, and experience none of these until and without and except we first by faith are buried with him in baptism!!
- g. According to 1Cor.12:13 we are “by one Spirit” “baptized into one body.”
 - (1) The Spirit is the agent.
 - (2) The water, of course, is the element, since there is only one baptism in force now, which is the water baptism of the Great Commission, Eph.4:4-6; Mt.28:18-20; Mk.16:15,16; Ac.2:36-38,41; 8:36-39; 10:47,48.
 - (3) The “one body” is the Lord’s church, Eph.4:4-6; 1:22,23; Col.1:18,24; cf. Mt.16:18.
- h. Therefore, to be saved is to be in Christ, in his church and in the body of Christ all at the same time, and all of which we enter at the same time and in the same way.
- 4. Without a doubt, the Bible teaches that our present salvation is in Christ and **IN NO OTHER**, in his church and in **NO OTHER PLACE**, and in **NO OTHER WAY**, except by obedience to the faith of Christ!
 - a. Every other major world religion, including the Jewish, the religion of Islam, Shintoism, Buddhism, etc., stands impoverished when it comes to saving one from his sins and providing hope of eternal life.
 - b. None, not one, is equal to the faith of Jesus Christ. Cf. Gal.2:16, etc.
 - c. None, not one, can put a man right with God.
 - d. For in Christ and **IN NO OTHER** is this possible!