

Nevertheless, I Am Not Ashamed

*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.*

Titus 3:5

READ 2 Timothy 1:7-12

Verse 8: “*Therefore*” in verse 8 looks back to what we learned in last week’s lesson.

Because of (1) Timothy’s true faith, (2) the gift of God in him, and (3) God’s gift to us all – His power, love and sound mind as a defense against Satan’s fear:

Timothy could *be not ashamed* of:

Being a witness for the Lord, and

Paul being imprisoned, this time in chains

AND he could be brave to face afflictions due to being a witness of the gospel.

Because of the power of God.

Verse 9: How do we stand? God saved us.

Our works do not cause us to be saved or to love our salvation.

We are called to be holy = set aside to God. The holy calling was given to us before we existed; when we are saved, we receive it.

God saved us:

According to His purpose – His grand plan; we are included when we say “yes” to Him.

And according to His grace – He gives it; we do nothing to deserve or receive it. This was foreshadowed when Abraham believed God and God counted it as righteousness to him. “Counted” is an accounting word; in the accounts for Abraham, his debt due to sin deserving of death was removed and righteousness with eternal life was entered into his account. AND it is God’s righteousness that is put on our account.

ETERNAL STATE AND DESTINATION

<u>Ungodly, Debt</u>	<u>Righteous, Faith</u>
<b>Debt</b> , unsaved, want to work to go to heaven, do not believe	<b>Faith</b> , saved, believe in God for salvation and to go to heaven

-> -> -> ->

GOD MOVES US from the ungodly to the righteous BECAUSE we believe in Him and in the price that Jesus Christ paid for our sins. We cannot do it ourselves.

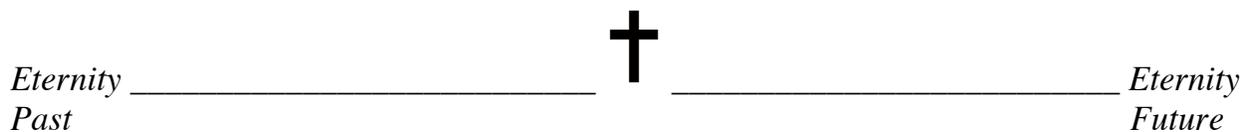
*3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. 4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Rom. 4:3-5*

Verses 9-10 God's Timing – The calling *was given before the world began.*

It was *manifested* = made to be seen, by Christ's first appearing. This first appearing included His birth, life on earth, death and resurrection. Christ's second appearing at the end will conclude everything, but this first appearing is where everything that He gave, gives, or will give were made possible. At the cross.

[John the Apostle wrote:] *1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. 1 John 1:1-4*

*12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. 13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. 1 Cor. 13:12-13*



The cross of Christ is the center of history. Everything before it, and everything after it, relates to what took place when Christ was crucified. His first appearing all led up to that event. So it is crucial that we understand that all depends upon it. God planned at the beginning, before He created everything, that this would be the provision for eternal life for those who would believe on Jesus Christ.

So here is one of the mysteries of God that we will not fully understand this side of heaven. All who believed God before Jesus lived on earth were saved at the cross, as well as all who have believed since. Salvation is found only in the cross of Christ.

Another wonderful thing that God did at the cross was to render death useless (1 Tim 1:10). "*Abolished*" = render useless. And so that brought us eternal life. We live forever, though our bodies will die (unless we go up in the rapture).

How does the Lord keep us safe in Him?

*13 In whom [Jesus] ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. Eph. 1:13-14*

And when will that be? At Jesus Christ's second appearing.

*So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Heb. 9:28*

So, it was planned by God in eternity past, it was accomplished on the cross, and it will be completed in eternity future.

How was this brought into the world?

Verses 10-11 Through the gospel.

Paul was chosen by God to take the gospel to the Gentiles.

Verse 12 Paul experienced trouble, but there was no cause to be ashamed because:

(1) It was for the gospel's sake.

*For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. 1 Pet. 2:20*

(2) Christ would sustain him.

*4 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 5 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. 2 Tim. 4:7-8*

Paul trusted in Christ, and had committed his life to the Lord to the end – *that day*. Therefore, he knew that he was saved, would be kept safe, and would receive rewards in *that day*. He also knew that the Lord would keep and reward all the other Christians who also *love his appearing*.

Paul said *I know whom I have believed*. This is a relationship, not a religion. Not rules to obey, but a person to know and love as Lord and Savior. And the Lord saves, keeps and knows us. May we always remember these things when we bring Jesus to the world around us – we want them to KNOW HIM so they, too, can walk in this life. Eternal life.

Because of all this, Paul went on to again encourage Timothy. Next week we will see how.



## DAYS OF PRAISE

### Seven Days

BY HENRY M. MORRIS, PH.D. |  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023

*“Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.” (John 8:56)*

Jesus spoke to the Pharisees about “my day”—a day that Abraham had “seen” 2,000 years before. This evidently referred to the time when Christ would be on Earth, which God had enabled Abraham to see in prophecy.

But of all the days when He was on the earth, the most glorious was the great day when He rose from the dead. “He hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee” (Acts 13:33).

As a result of His death and resurrection, “behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2). The day of salvation is any day in this age of grace when a person believes on Christ for salvation. He then receives “the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption” (Ephesians 4:30). This great future day of redemption evidently is the same as “the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6), when He comes again.

Following this is the fearful day of the Lord, when Christ will punish and judge and reign. “The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night...and they shall not escape” (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3). It is also called “the great day of his wrath” (Revelation 6:17).

This day of the Lord will culminate at God’s great white throne. This will be “the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God” (Romans 2:5).

Finally will come the eternal “day of God” when this present earth will be purified with fire and “we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13). That day will never end, “for there shall be no night there” (Revelation 21:25).

This devotional is from ICR.org.