

# SAVED AND SERVING

## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SALVATION AND SERVICE

*"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him,  
that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."*

~ Romans 6:6

### 1. Can a Christian ... ?

- a. People ask, "Can a Christian \_\_\_\_\_?" ...or... "Is it a sin to \_\_\_\_\_?"
- b. "Christian" seen as right, justified, strong; "not Christian" seen as wrong, weak
- c. Reality #1: we don't think we are wrong or weak, even when we are.
- d. Reality #2: we don't want to be associated with the wrong or weak.
- e. Reality #3: many confuse salvation and service ← wrong
- f. Example: "any real, true believer is going to [vote this way]" (MacArthur)
- g. Unashamed workmen discern between salvation and service

### 2. Salvation is What Christ Did

- a. Can they? Of course, but are they really Christians? – 1 Cor 6:12, 10:23
- b. Christian salvation = trusting the finished work of Christ – Ro 3:26, 2Co 5:21
- c. It is by grace (God's work) through faith (not your work) – Eph 2:8-9, Ro 4:5, Ti 3:5
- d. Salvation through belief not behavior. Essential salvation beliefs:
  - i. 1- Godhead -2- You are not God (sin) -3- Christ is God -4- faith in the literal DBR for your sins and justification unto eternal life freely received.

### 3. Service is What You Do

- a. Can they? Of course, but is it becoming Christian service? – 1 Cor 6:12, 10:23
- b. Who serves God? More saved than are serving ... but more trying to serve than saved
- c. Christian service = your life and labour doing the will of God – Rom 12:2
- d. We are saved to serve – Rom 6:6, 12, 13, 16 (this is why the church exists)
  - i. Paul spends > 50% of his epistles talking about service – Rom 14:16-18
  - ii. We have a job /mission /vocation /calling /ministry – Gal 5:13, Col 1:9, Eph 4:1
- e. Service requires spirituality – Spirit, spiritual understanding, growth, strength

### 4. What the Difference Means

- a. 1- Mercy and grace to all. All can be saved!!! 1 Tim 2:4
- b. 2- You can be saved and never serve the Lord ← Shameful. You should. Eph 2:10
- c. 3- You can do works for God and not be saved. ← Tragedy (2 Th 3:2, Ti 1:16)
- d. 4- Not everything Christians (saved) do is right, good, helpful, charitable, edifying.
- e. 5- Not all serve the Lord – 1 Cor 5:5, Phi 2:21, Rom 16:18, Ti 3:3
- f. 6- Carnal Christians exist – babes in Christ are carnal – 1 Cor 3:1-4
- g. 7- There are weak Christians – Rom 14:1, 15:1, Gal 6:1, 1Co 8:7-9, 1Th 5:14
- h. 8- Ignorant brethren (saved) exist – Rom 1:13, 11:25, 1 Cor 12:1, 1 Th 4:13
- i. 9- Grace comes before growth – Titus 3:3-7
- j. 10- Non-essentials for salvation may be essential for service. 1 Tim 4:6
- k. Good workmanship: assuring salvation before judging service