

SALVATION MECHANICS

LEARNING THE ELEMENTS OF SALVATION AND HOW THEY WORK

"For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost."

~ Mathew 18:11

1. Simple Salvation

- a. Understanding salvation is of primary importance for eternal life, peace, knowing God.
- b. Right division is important to understand salvation (salvation revealed over time)
- c. The gospel of salvation can be simply explained: 1Cor 15:1-4, Rom 3:23-26, 4:24-5:1
- d. Yet, confusion, debate, errors abound around how it works, the details – the mechanics
- e. What of atonement, forgiveness, redemption, reconciliation, justification, sanctification?
- f. Salvation is simple to receive (faith) – but its depth teaches the wisdom & grace of God.

2. Salvation Mechanics

- a. Salvation is the whole package – but what is under the hood? How does it work?
- b. We need to have a grasp on how it all fits together to make it all men see it clearly.
- c. What makes salvation necessary is sin - Rom 3:9-10, 20, 23 (← a big obstacle to faith)
- d. Each element solves a problem caused by sin against God.
 - i. Punishment problem: Guilt/offense/wrath needs appeased/satisfied
 1. Solution: atonement (propitiation) / forgiveness (remission)
 - ii. Relationship problem: Broken relationship, bound, trapped, alone, distant
 1. Solution: redemption (deliverance, liberty) / reconciliation (reunion)
 - iii. Purpose/position problem: undeserving, incapable, ungodly, disobedient
 1. Solution: justification (righteous standing) / sanctification (holy position)
 - iv. Mortality problem: death, corruption, temporal, flesh.
 1. Solution: regeneration (new creation) / resurrection (glorification)

3. Requirement and Response

- a. Each solution has something man supplies and something God supplies.
- b. One is a requirement upon the sinner, the other requires God to grant it.
- c. One is a work against sin, and the other is a benefit from God.
 - i. Work man must supply: atonement (propitiation)
 1. God grants forgiveness (remission, pardon, no more punishment)
 - ii. Work man must supply: redemption (free from sin)
 1. God grants reconciliation (reunion with him)
 - iii. Work man must supply: justification (righteousness)
 1. God grants sanctification (a sacred position for his purpose)
 - iv. Work man must supply: regeneration (new life)
 1. God grants glorification (honors and exaltation)
- d. What God grants cannot occur until the work is done.

4. The Need for Salvation in Christ

- a. None of the elements/work required of man can be done by man alone.
- b. To have any hope: we need help, we need salvation, we need God's mercy.
- c. Salvation is impossible without the mechanics in place working to provide it.
- d. Jesus Christ = God manifest in the flesh, became a man, to do what we could not.

- e. Through his death and resurrection, the work required of man is performed.
 - i. Christ gave his blood for atonement (propitiation that satisfies)
 - 1. God can forgive through the blood of Christ (atoning blood)
 - ii. Christ gave his life to redeem (death sets free from sin/law)
 - 1. God can reconcile (reunite) with us through the cross (Gal 6:14)
 - iii. Christ died and resurrection the righteous one (justified)
 - 1. God fulfills his purpose through Christ, the Holy One (sanctification)
 - iv. Christ raising from the dead gives new life, a new man (regeneration)
 - 1. God exalts Christ above all principality and power (glorification)
- f. Christ as man represents you in every work if you trust him (faith) - Rom 3:26
 - i. The mechanism that counts his work as yours is imputation by faith. Rom 4:24

5. Salvation by Grace Through Faith

- a. That God (in Christ) does all the work you were required to but couldn't means....
 - i. It is all of grace – initiation, done for you, benefits you, favors you, undeserving.
- b. That the work can only be counted to you in Christ means ...
 - i. It is through faith – hearing, believing, trusting Christ.
 - ii. The Holy Spirit puts you into him when you believe - Eph 1:13
- c. We need Christ to save, because of how salvation works, and we can't.
 - i. Understanding the mechanics makes us thankful for all that God does for us.