

John #18

3:16-21

04.08.07

“Saved Through Him”

Intro: It is our Biblically based Christian Faith that brings us here together and sets us apart from all religions, for in contrast to every other religious belief system our Lord is the one and only who rose from the dead. We serve a Risen Savior!

A. The authoritative Written Word of God says, “He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ...” (1 Cor 15:4). And, “Christ has been raised from the dead” (1 Cor. 15:20). And, “... God raised Him from the dead; ...” (Acts 13:30). Amen, amen, and amen!

John 3:16-21

I. “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son” “that the world should be saved through Him.”

A. Being “saved through Him” consists of two things. 1) Those who are “saved through Him” are saved from perishing. 2) Those who are “saved through Him” are saved to eternal life.

II. Let us consider what it means to be saved to “eternal life” in a future aspect.

A. For us who believe, to be saved to eternal life means that in the future we will dwell in heaven! Heaven is the place where the eternal God permanently resides, where He manifests His glory to the fullest, and where “in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:7). (Cf. Rev. 21 & 22)

B. For us who believe, to be saved to eternal life means that in the future the Lord Jesus Christ “will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory.” (Cf. Phil. 3:20)

1. We will be raised from the dead with imperishable glorified bodies by the will and power of God; by the exertion of the power that Christ has; by the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead! (Cf. 1 Cor. 15:38, 43; Phil. 3:20-21; Rom. 8:11; John 19:38 - 20:18)

2. Luke confirmed the Bodily resurrection of Christ recording, “And while they (the disciples) were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst. But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit. And He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? “See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” [And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.] And while they still could not believe it for joy and were marveling, He said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish; 43 and He took it and ate it before them” (Luke 24:36-43). (Cf. John 20:24-29)

3. We have the sure Word of God confirming the truth of the resurrection of Christ; and that as we are saved to eternal life we will enter into heaven to be with God forever and ever; and that just as God raised Christ from the dead with a glorified body, so to will Christ “transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory!”

III. Let us consider what it means to be saved to “eternal life” in the present.

A. For us who believe, to be saved to eternal life means that we presently are not under judgement, have passed out of death into life, and are not under condemnation!

1. Why are we saved to eternal life whereby we are “not judged”, and have “passed out of death into life”, and “therefore now” are under “no condemnation?” Beloved, because of the resurrection of Christ! 1 Cor 15:7, “and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.” But, Christ is risen indeed! So the opposite is true: Christ has risen, our faith is valuable, we are no longer in our sins! Therefore, we have “passed out of death into life” being spiritually alive right now.

B. How did our being saved to eternal life become our present reality?

1. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living (present tense) hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

C. Now, since we are born again through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we can consider ourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. We are set free from sin and able to walk in the newness of life - living a new life according to the Christian faith!

1. No longer are we dead in our sin but we are saved to eternal life and are alive to God in Christ Jesus, so let us live lives that are free from sin - this has been secured for us through the resurrection of Christ!

2. This is why John 3:21 says, "But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God." Those who are saved to eternal life have no reason to hide from God like Adam and Eve did in the garden, trying to hide their sin and shame; but those who are saved to eternal life come to the Light and live lives free from sin so that their life will show that what has happened in them is the very work of God through Christ Jesus - that God caused them to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead!

Conclusion: Because Christ is raised from the dead and alive today, we who believe that He is the Christ have spiritual life in Him. Therefore, let us live the life that God has freely granted us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ that He will be glorified in us! To God be the glory, great things He has done in us through the resurrection of Christ Jesus!

Heritage Christian Fellowship
11104 Menaul Blvd. NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
505.323.0557
maxwell_timothy@hotmail.com