

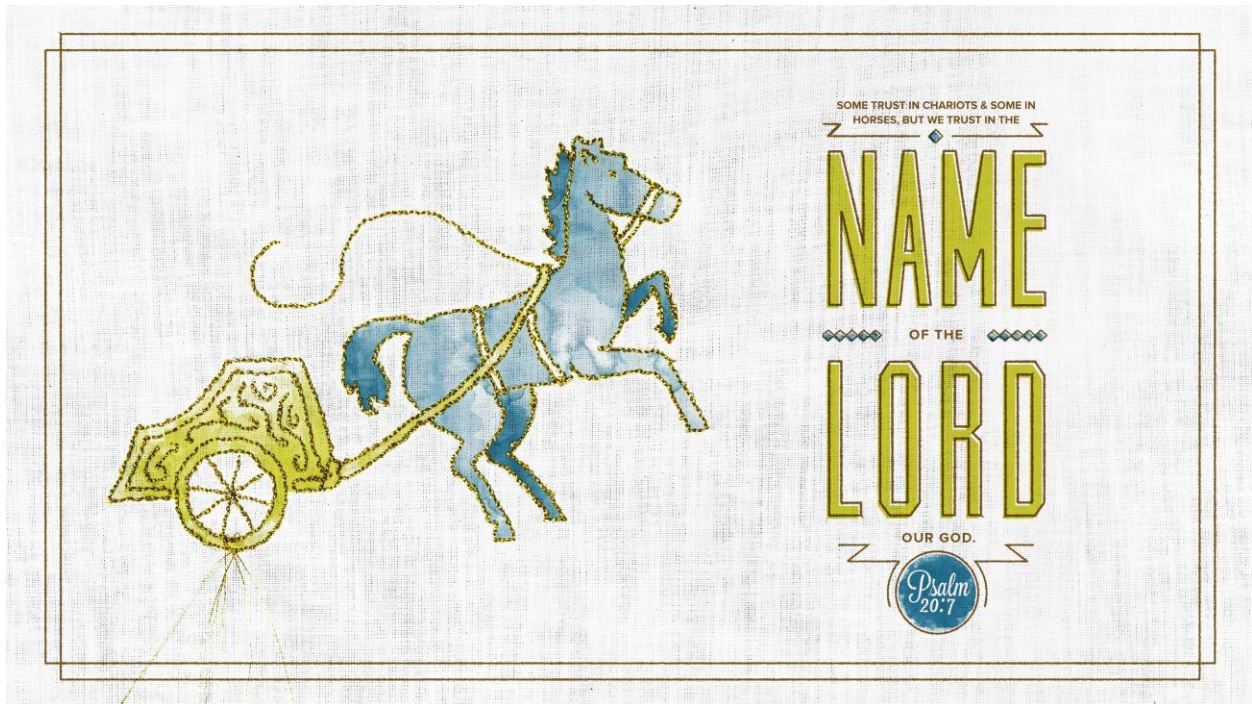
CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROOKFIELD, IL

The Necessity of Salvation

Salvation

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The Necessity of Salvation

April 19, 2015

Psalms 20:7 (NIV)

⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Sermon Thesis:

We must recognize the need we all have to be saved and do what is required to escape condemnation.

Objectives:

- I. Sin is Universal
- II. Death in Adam
- III. Life in Jesus

Introduction:

It was the beginning of a holiday weekend, and the service station was crowded with motorists and cars. Finally the attendant hustled up to the local minister, who had been waiting in line for quite some time.

“Sorry about the delay,” the attendant apologized. “It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for the trip he’s planned.”

The pastor smiled. “I know what you mean,” he said, “I have the same problem in my business.”

—*Gospel Herald*¹

Scripture stresses that fallen human beings are separated from God on account of their sin. All need to be saved, if they are to enter into a new relationship with God as their Creator and Redeemer. Salvation is not the result of human achievement, privilege or wisdom, but depends totally upon the graciousness of a loving God, supremely expressed in the cross of Jesus Christ. All people must respond in repentance and faithful obedience to God’s Word if they are to benefit from God’s offer of salvation in Jesus the Christ.

¹ Tan, P. L. (1996). *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times* (p. 1225). Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.

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Sermon Outline:

I. Sin is universal

Isaiah 64:6 (NIV)

⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

- A. Three times the word all is used by the Messianic Prophet Isaiah in the preceding verse. To be clear let's define all.
 - 1. All = (Kol) in Hebrew means: any; the whole; everyone; everybody; everything; completely; total; every kind of
 - 2. This leaves out none of us and includes all of us. Sin is universal.

Romans 3:19–23 (NIV)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- B. Romans 3:23 we see the word all again. Let's define it in the Greek now.
 - 1. All = pas in Greek: every; whole; everything
 - 2. Once again it includes us all and excludes none. Sin is universal.
- C. The whole world is accountable to God (v19), because sin is universal.

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- D. No one is declared righteous by the law (v20). In fact all mankind is subject to the law.
- E. Therefore, the law is intended to make us aware of our sin (v20).
- F. We are all willing and obedient participants in the law and the flesh our first nature. We are justified unto our first birth; we confirm it all the time.
- G. Paul in Romans 3 presents a way to righteousness apart from the law (v21).

II. Death in Adam

Romans 5:12–14 (NIV)

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

¹³ To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

- A. Death in Adam is universal because all have sinned.
 - 1. We have confirmed death by our obedience to the law of sin.
 - 2. Whatever brings death we have obeyed it.
 - 3. We have a need to be saved.

Romans 7:24 (NIV)

²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

Ephesians 2:3 (NIV)

³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

- B. It is time to make different choices, act in obedience to life.
- C. Confirm our choice for salvation by obeying the one who offers a different outcome for mankind.

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III. Life in Jesus

- A. We have demonstrated our choice for death by obedience to the flesh our first nature which is deserving of God's wrath.
- B. Now we have the opportunity to demonstrate our choice for salvation.

Romans 5:15–18 (NIV)

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶ Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people.

- C. In Jesus the Christ salvation is universal.
- D. It is the GRACE of God extended to all mankind that we might be justified unto life in Jesus.
- E. This is the salvation that justifies us in spite of our many trespasses.
- F. We have obeyed death too long. It is now time to obey life and make preparations for eternity.

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Conclusion:

- What shall I do, this side of the tomb, to be lost? The answer is NOTHING!
- He who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity, is wise for a moment, but a fool forever.

—Tillotson²

Sin is universal, do nothing and you will be lost. You have already staked your claim on death by your obedience to the flesh. It is a law of sin and death.

Now it is time to escape death by obeying the GRACE of God. This GRACE is not found in the human will, or by his achievements. It is found by compliance to the commands of a sovereign God whom the whole world is subject to.

Here is His invitation, hear and be saved...

² Tan, P. L. (1996). *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times* (p. 1225). Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.

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Invitation:

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Luke 13:3 (NIV)

³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Acts 2:38 (NIV)

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.