

Research Paper

In this research paper, I am indulging into soteriology to show how salvation, confession of sin, receiving Christ and the finished work of the cross at Calvary is a mandate to spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

In the book of Romans, it states “that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (10:9-10). Here we see the process that one must adhere to, to be saved, the two steps are confession and belief to obtain salvation. “The New Testament clearly teaches two things: first, that God wills everyone to be saved and that Christ died for everyone; and second, that some, nevertheless, will be lost. Thus, Christians should hold and hand on truths that God, who is both all-powerful and infinitely merciful, wills every human being without exception to be saved, and that Christ died for every human being without exception. They should also hold and hand on the truth that some people nevertheless perish through their own fault. Due to culpable lack of faith, such people are not in the end redeemed.” (Germain Grisez and Peter F. Ryan, S.J., 2013). In this statement we see that the desire of God is that everyone be saved, but the truth of the matter is that everyone will not. There will be those that out right reject the word of God and as a result will spend and eternity in hell.

“A person must understand the truths to be believed” (Curtis, 2016). It is important that the word of God is being conveyed in a way that allows the hearers to comprehend, to make an informed decision pertaining to salvation, the book of Romans informs us that “... faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (10:17). Salvation is necessary because we do not have the ability to do right in our own might, therefore through salvation we are forgiven, and we are afforded grace. It is said that “all men are totally, morally depraved (Ro. 3:9-23). In man’s natural state, he is a rebel against God. He is a child of the devil. He has no righteousness because his ultimate intention is selfishness. He is incapable of doing right. He cannot conquer temptation and sin because he deliberately seeks to pursue his own selfish gratification.” We can see that salvation is necessary.

“The doctrine of eternal security teaches that God is able to complete the good work of salvation that He has begun in every believer (Phil. 1:6), and that He has power over all flesh (John 17:2). The arguments for eternal security are guaranteed by the person and work of God” (Towns, 2001). From this we can see that we have a guaranteed eternal security, all we have to do is go through the process of salvation, which entail acknowledging our sins, by way of confession, repent of our sins, turning away from sin completely, believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the grave, then we go through the sanctification process of being made holy and set apart for God’s use, then we are justified by God and our past sins can no longer be held against us and we are now made right with God through the finished work of the cross at Calvary. Salvation is a mandate for an eternity with Christ in heaven. How can one spend an eternity with a God that they’ve never acknowledged? It is impossible!

“God has promised a redeemer since Adam and Eve, and those who trust this promise are saved. One thing is certain today: Jesus is His name.” “Once one had heard the Name and is past the age of accountability, he must believe in this “named” Messiah. There is no other name (“identity”) by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12; Jn 14:6) (Anderson, 2018). If God promised a redeemer and provided one, how can we just overlook Him and think that we automatically get to spend eternity with a redeemer that we never acknowledged?

Then there are those who just outright do not believe. “Unbelief shuts God out of the heart and life. The unbeliever is the enemy of God.” “Unbelief renders salvation impossible and makes it necessary for God to condemn the unbeliever, because of justice, to eternal punishment.” (Curtis, 2016). Salvation is impossible for an unbeliever because one doesn’t follow or submit to what they do not believe. As a result, no confession is made and there is no repentance because there is no belief. That is why faith/belief is so important, it is the glue that holds everything together. It is faith that cause one’s heart and attitude to change. Because by faith one desire to live a life that is pleasing unto God, if one doesn’t believe then there will be no action.

In the end, there will be no excuse. God is not a liar, and His word declares that “this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come” (Matthew 24:14). God is not a God that would set us up for failure, according to His word, He is going to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to hear the gospel and respond to it before His second advent, so that no one is left out. How one responds is totally up to them, but there will not be the excuse of not knowing or not hearing the gospel. It will be a conscious choice of reject or acceptance. Either way one will have the benefit of making an informed

decision of where they will spend their eternity. Just as missionaries spread the gospel in the New Testament, there are people still doing the same today. In various countries it is being done in secret for fear of being martyred, but the word is spreading all over the world, people are believing and accepting Christ everyday. It may not be at the magnitude of when Peter was preaching and three thousand was added to the church daily, but it is still happening. God is given people the opportunity to hear and belief before His return.

God is faithful and true to His word. The scripture states that faith come by hearing, and I believe that all will get a chance to hear before the end. It would go against the word of God, if they didn't. So, the gospel not being heard will not be a validate excuse for being condemned to an eternity in hell. Every day, it is being made more accessible and many are preaching and teaching gospel, even if it is done in secret. God has a plan, and He will fulfill His plan before the trumpet sounds because that is what His word states and I hold fast that His word is the infallible truth. Without confession of sins, there is no repentance, which mean that salvation is not obtained. The include inserts from books and articles state the same. We just must be ready to respond to the call of salvation and as it has been said "if we don't make it, it is nobody's fault but our own."

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