

“Our Great Salvation” (Part 2)
Ephesians 1:3-5, 11-13

Calling

Two types of calling seen in the word of God: The **General** Call and the **Effectual** Call.

- The General call is the exclusive call of the gospel that invites everyone. John 7:37-38 “...If *anyone* thirsts...*whoever* believes”. Matt 11:28 “Come to me, *all* who labor..”
- The Effectual call is the call of the gospel that will draw those who are chosen (Elect) to salvation. (1 Thes 1:5, 5:23-24, Rom 8:28).

Those who aren't chosen still make a willful decision to reject the Gospel, and those who are chosen still make a willful decision to accept the Gospel. The Lord is sovereign and yet we still have agency.

Repentance

True repentance causes both remorse/sorrow over sin **and** a change of mind about sin. (2 Cor 7:9-10).

- We daily repent as Christians, but there is a repentance *for salvation* that takes place only **once**. Our daily repentance as Christians is for sanctification, not justification.

This repentance is a gift from God! (2 Tim 2:24-25) yet it is expressed as an act of man! (Acts 2:37-38)

Conversion

“The active part of repentance” - Conversion is a turning **away from sin** and a turning **toward God**. Before conversion, every person was walking headfirst into sin and death. Conversion turns us to the Lord (Acts 26:14-18)

- We went from serving idols to serving God (1 Thes 1:9)
- Repentance and conversion are linked. In order to turn away from sin, you have to have sorrow over it, and a change of mind about it. (Acts 3:17-19)
- Involves God's sovereignty and man's responsibility (Acts 3:26)

Regeneration

To be “born again” or “new birth”. Regeneration is instantaneous and completely a work of God whereby He gives the believer new life. We were in the flesh (2 Cor 5:16), and dead in our trespasses (Eph 2:1). We were also children of the devil before we were regenerated (John 8:44, 1 John 3:10-11).

God is the Author. (John 1:12-13). The **Holy Spirit** is the agent (Titus 3:5-6) and The **Word** is the instrument (1 Pet 1:22-23). Through **Christ** and His work, we are a new creation (2 Cor 5:17)

Justification

Justification is to be declared righteous. Not to be “made righteous.”. Christ's sacrifice was sufficient for all sinners (Heb 2:9, 1 John 2:2, 2 Pet 2:1) but justification is only applied by grace through faith (Gal 2:16).

The **source** of our justification is grace (Rom 3:24), His blood was the **basis** (Rom 5:9), it was **received** by faith (Rom 3:28)

Union With Christ

This is the fundamental blessing of our salvation. We are *in Christ* (Rom 8:1, Col 2:7) and this union is **inseparable** (Rom 8:38-39) and **vital!** (1 John 5:11-12). This union gives us:

- Eph 1:3 All spiritual blessings in Christ.
- Rom 8:2 Freedom from the law of sin and death.
- 2 Cor 5:21 Righteousness
- Rom 8:10-11 Spiritual and resurrection life.
- 2 Cor 5:17 New creation.
- 1 Cor 1:30 Wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption!
- Rom 8:17 Joint heirship.
- Rom 7:4 Power to bear fruit.
- John 14:13 Identification with Christ in our prayers.
- Rom 5:10 Guarantee of salvation.

This all comes from the fact that we have been:

- Gal 2:20 crucified with Him
- Col 2:20 died with Him
- Rom 6:4 buried with Him
- Eph 2:5 made alive with Him
- Eph 2:6a raised up with Him
- Ep. 2:6b seated in the heavenlies with Him
- Col 3:3 our life is hid with Christ in God
- Col 3:4 manifested with Him in glory

Announcements:

★ **DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of August we are collecting monetary donations for HeartCry Missionary Society, one of the global missionaries that we support as a church body. The HeartCry Missionary Society works with indigenous missionaries whom God has raised up for Himself in some of the most remote places on the earth. It is their goal to provide whatever training and resources necessary to advance the Gospel through these indigenous missionaries around the world. For more information about HeartCry and their work around the world, please see the bulletin board on the back table. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for HeartCry.

★ **COMMUNION:** We will be celebrating and partaking of Communion together as a church body THIS Sunday, August 6th.