

**Put God First**  
**(Work Out Your Salvation)**  
**Part 5**

***“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)***

God is so mindful of us when He sent His beloved son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our sins to give us eternal life. Only through the work of Jesus on the cross we receive salvation, <sup>8</sup> ***“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.”*** (Ephesians 2:8-9) The salvation of God is standing for us and is given to us freely and we cannot and don't need to add anything to it.

And as He did His part and put forward the plan of salvation for us to live and enjoy life with God, the Lord also want us to live in obedience to Him and to His word. ***By grace you have been saved, through faith.*** Faith is to believe, and to believe is to obey. In ***Romans 1:5*** ***“Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.”*** Paul said ***we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.*** So here when we call people to follow Christ we are calling them to live in obedience to God and that is the faith that we received and proclaiming. In ***Romans 16:25-26*** <sup>25</sup> ***Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,<sup>26</sup> but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him.”*** Paul link the gospel message that he is proclaiming with the statement ***“so that all nations might believe and obey him,”*** So again here believe is linked with obedience.

So in ***Romans 10:9-10*** when it says ***“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”*** Then believe should accompanied by obedience.

Many they abuse the grace and the mercies of God. And please do not be misled. Material blessings, answered prayers, spiritual and ministerial achievement that does not mean God's approval. Even when God is punishing the wicked that does not mean you are approved by God. Repentance is needed along the way to keep the salvation that God had lavished on you. <sup>11</sup> ***For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.<sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,<sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,”*** (Titus 2:11-13) Your salvation is by grace and the same grace would teach you ***to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.*** When you receive Christ and continue to do wrong then your salvation is in peril.

Jesus Christ is the living word of God, ***“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*** (John 1:14) Therefore when you received Christ you received the word of God. And when you continue to hold on and obey the word of God then you are saved and keeping your salvation as you can read in the following verses:-

- 1- ***“<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.<sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.”*** (1Corinthians 15:1-2) Paul here put a condition for salvation to flow if they would firmly hold on the word of God preached to them.
- 2- ***“Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.”*** (James 1:21) James mentioned here that salvation come when you humbly accept (believe, recognize, agree to, consent, say yes, say you will, admit, acknowledge, allow, put up with, endure, tolerate, bow to, take on, undertake) the word of God.
- 3- ***“<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.<sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*** (John 8:31-32) So Jesus here mentioned that the true disciples are those who hold firmly to the teaching of Jesus (the word of God).

So how about those who threw at their back the command and the Word of God, and how about those whom the Lord spoke about the following: <sup>17</sup> ***You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you.”*** (Psalm 50:17) Will they be saved? Yes, if they will repent, otherwise no way! <sup>21</sup> ***But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.<sup>22</sup> All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.<sup>23</sup> Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live ?”*** (Ezekiel 18:21-23)

***My Dear and Beloved:*** <sup>24</sup> ***But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.”*** (Ezekiel 18:24) Salvation is the very precious thing that the LORD had done to you through the work of Jesus on the cross; therefore you ought to be careful how to live in righteousness so you will live with God and forever as you agree to abide with God's word and pray.

***My Prayer:*** ***Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.*** ***Lord I hold firmly to your word, teachings and commands, living in your word of truth, I will continue to obey you and waiting for you to come and take me to heaven. Uphold me Lord, provide for me and protect me, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.***