

“Saved From Wrath”

Rom. 5:6-9 “For when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet per-adventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commended his love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.”

First of all, I want us to look at the realization of our spiritual condition apart from Christ. Do you realize your spiritual condition and why you need to be declared righteous by the blood of Jesus Christ and not your own efforts? The Bible puts it this way in verse 6: ***“For when we were yet without strength....”*** The word “strength” is used 63 times in the Greek New Testament. It is translated “weak, sick, powerless, or helpless”.

“When we were without strength” - means that there is not an ounce of ability in any of us that could ever save us. In John 11, it is used of Lazarus. It says he was sick - How sick was he? He died! That is what you call really being sick. - again, it is the same word “strength back in Rom. 5:6. In Acts 9:37 this word is used of Dorcas - she was sick. How sick? She died. It was a serious illness.

This was the condition that we were in. We were without cure, we were without hope, we were without strength. In that condition there is not way that anyone could save themselves. Yet we find Christians everywhere preaching the gospel of works and human performance. That somehow we are able by our own works, by our own efforts to clean up our act and live our life for the Lord. No we are not. The bible says ***“there is none that doeth good, there is none righteous, no not one.”*** We are totally without strength.

So this whole text here starts with a realization of our spiritual condition. Without that precious blood of Jesus Christ there is no hope for anybody here.

The second thing we want to point out here in verse 6 is God's timing in all of this, ***“... in due time Christ died for the ungodly.”*** Again, in **Galatians 4:4,5**; ***“But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”***

The fullness of time came. Perfect timing in the plan of God. Many people ask, “what is the meaning of that?” Couldn't He have died years before that or years later? The answer is no! He could not have died one day earlier or one day later! Why? If He died at any other time then when He did, He would not have fulfilled the Prophecy that was very specifically laid out by the Prophet Daniel as to when the Messiah would come and be cut off. It was perfect timing, so that no one could doubt, no one could question - this is the messiah who would die for the sins of the world - He came right on time.

Lets go back to our text and look at the third matter. First the realization of our spiritual condition Secondly, the recognition of God's timing. Then third, the reason for His death. Again, in **Rom. 5:7,8** ***“For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet per-adventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”***

Here in verse 8 we have this beautiful word **“commended”**. The Greek word itself means **“to stand with”** i.e. ***“But God stands with those who are sinners.”*** The exact opposite of what human nature would do. This word is also in the present tense meaning that he continues to do so.

What did they accuse Jesus of? Of being a friend to Publicans and Sinners. Aren't you glad that the Lord Jesus is comfortable with Sinners? I didn't say, “comfortable with sin” but with sinners. He is willing to do this because He loves you. The little children's songs spells it out: ***“Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so..”*** The wonderful love of God. You see, He doesn't give up. He doesn't just say, “well, I will stand with you if you will repent and get right with me, I will give you two weeks and if your OK then you can go to heaven, Otherwise your out of luck. No, he continues to stand with who? With sinners! There are people who teach that once you come to Christ, you are no longer a sinner. NO, you are still a sinner - saved by grace. You are still going to have a problem with sin because you have a sin nature. One

day it will be completely removed.

That is why it is so important to understand Romans. We are not made righteous in this life. We are only declared to be righteous because of what Jesus did on the cross. You are not any more righteous 20 years after you accept Christ, then you are the very day you accept Christ. It is the righteousness of Jesus Christ - it is not our own righteousness. And Christians can get so confused over that. It isn't by works of righteousness that we have done, but it is according to His mercy that He has saved us. What a wonderful gospel that we have.

Now, let's look at verse 9a, and we will see the result of His blood. ***"Much more then, being justified by His blood..."*** In the Greek it says literally ***"by means of his blood."*** There has been tremendous wars in the Christian church over this issue of "the blood of Christ", and has been for years.

Many modern day hymn books have intentionally left out any hymns having to do with the blood. In many liberal churches today you will never hear any reference to the blood. They offer their people no means of salvation. There is no salvation apart from the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. ***Peter 1:18; "...you were not redeemed with corruptible things such as silver and gold...but with the precious blood of Christ..."*** His blood is the only thing that can save you. It is the means by which we are justified before God.

The fifth thing that we want to bring to your attention is or rescue from wrath. ***Verse 9b "we shall be saved from (the) wrath through him."*** God's wrath will be poured out against the whole world in the period of time known as the tribulation. It is called the time of God's wrath.

But we also know that hell itself is the wrath of God against those who rejected His Son, Jesus Christ. It says in ***John 3:36; "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."*** Literally, the believer is saved from wrath.

I once heard a pastor being interviewed on T.V., he was talking about how all of these "Christians" who say they are "saved". And then he said, ***"what I would like to ask them is 'saved from what?'"*** Then, he said, ***"that is such a stupid term."*** I don't think it's so stupid - I looked it up in the bible and it's used 356 times - must not be so stupid. Mentioned 127 in the N.T. 127 times God tells you that you are saved. ***"Saved from what?"*** I'm glad you asked brother, Saved from the wrath of God. I like to say, saved from sin, death and hell. And only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

To be saved is a serious thing. It's so serious I want you to look at a few verses.

John 3:17 "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be SAVED."

John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in he shall be SAVED."

Acts 2:21 "It shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be SAVED"

Acts 4:12; "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven whereby we must be SAVED."

Acts 16:31; "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be SAVED..."

It is all the way through the Bible..... ***"Saved from the wrath of God."***

I Cor. 1:18; "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but to us which are SAVED it is the power of God."

Eph. 2:8; "For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:"

Titus 3:5; "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us."

To truly be born again, to truly be saved is to be saved from the wrath of God. That's not just the Tribulation wrath, it is the eternal wrath of hell itself. ***Rev. 20: "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*** God help us to understand our salvation. It is primarily and fundamentally rescuing us from hell and from God's wrath.