

January 2021 Foundations Series

Foundational Series

From Pastor Dale Shorter's Sermons

Lesson #1, The Need for Foundation

Lesson #2, The Fall of Man

Lesson #3

The Salvation of Man

Scripture:

Titus 2:11-14, *“For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³ while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. ¹⁴ He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.”*

Teaching Insights:

I. Salvation is the Initiative of God

**Three words come to mind when we talk about salvation-
*Justice, Mercy & Grace***

- Justice is God GIVING us what we DO deserve
- Mercy is God NOT GIVING us what we DO deserve
- Grace is GIVING us what we DON'T deserve

Amazing grace is sovereign grace...Given by God through His Son Jesus Christ.

Psalms 86:15, *“But you, O Lord, are compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.”*

II. Salvation is the Gift of God

There is no other way to be saved, apart from grace.

When Jesus Christ died on the cross, he bowed his head and said, “tetelestai.” Which means, “It is finished.” It is paid in full.

Ephesians 2:8-9, *“God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”*

Titus 3:5-7, *“He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. ⁶ He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁷ Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.”*

Galatians 2:21, *“I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.”*

Romans 11:6, *“And since it is through God’s kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God’s grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.”*

III. Salvation is the Work of God

It is something God has DONE...it is HIS ACCOMPLISHED WORK. Understand...God accomplishes what He starts. He does not rest until his work is finished.

It is personal—It is always for the good of man—It is done with perfection through unperfected, imperfect man.

Hebrews 12:2, *“We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God’s throne.”*

Romans 11:29, *“For God’s gifts and his call can never be withdrawn.”*

When you confess your sins & seek forgiveness from God through Christ, the gift of Salvation is yours!

1 John 1:9, *“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”*

1 John 2:1, “My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.”

IV. Salvation is the Secret to an Overcoming Life

Titus 2:12. “And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God...”

Secret = something taken to be a specific or key to a desired end; something kept hidden or unexplained: mystery

Salvation gives you the power OVER the sinful nature.

Although God has given you the power, we don't understand it...But we have faith to the point of knowing God does not give something unless it challenges us to move closer to Him...and His kingdom promises.

Romans 7:14, “So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.”

Romans 7:22-25a, “I love God's law with all my heart. ²³ But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. ²⁴ Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Jesus Christ provides the GRACE needed to overcome the nature within and the enemies without.

V. Salvation is Sufficient

Whatever you need today, you need not fear, God's grace is sufficient to meet that need.

2 Corinthians 12:9, “Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.”

Trouble is going to come into your life and God is going to give you grace to deal with it!

We can praise God through the difficulty because we have experienced the grace of God in our lives and know it is sufficient!

“When you cannot trace God’s hand, you can trust God’s heart.”
Anonymous Quote,

VI. Salvation is Supreme

Titus 2:13, “*While we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.*”

There are those who have accomplished great things in life...but the greatest accomplishment in life is NOT a contribution of man but of GOD!

Ephesians 2:6-8, “*For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. ⁷ So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. ⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.*”

“Although my memory's fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior.” John Newton

“Jesus Christ does not save the worthy, but the unworthy. Your plea must not be righteousness but guilt.” Charles Spurgeon

Discussion Questions:

Q: From our discussion last week on the Fall of Man, how does knowing the depravity of man shape your view of Salvation?

Q: Through scripture we know that Salvation is a gift from God through our faith, not our works. How should this knowledge affect our thoughts, actions, and motives?

Jesus paid it all. All to
Him I owe.