

Ye Cannot Be Saved

Intro: Acts 27:31 ^{“31} Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.” Notice the background to this statement made by Paul. Although we shall take this phrase out of its context, we, never-the-less, shall apply it to principles emphasized throughout God’s word.

1. Consider what it means to be saved.
 - a. Released from sin.
 - b. Reunited with God.
 - c. Power of prayer.
 - d. God’s providential oversight.
 - e. Heaven.
2. Would it not truly be tragic if the Lord today should say to you, “you cannot be saved”?
3. He is saying exactly that to the following.

I. YE CANNOT BE SAVED BY YOUR OWN MORALITY.

- A. **Morals is a standard of what is right or wrong, approved or disapproved, accepted or not accepted.**
- B. **In other words: by your own standard, or by the standard of men.**
- C. **The greatest delusion the devil has placed in the mind of man is the idea that it does not make any difference what you believe.**
 1. “Just as long as you are sincere.”
 2. “Join the church of **your** choice.”
 3. “Live a good moral life and you will be saved.”
- D. **Notice what the Bible says:**
 1. Tit. 3:5 ^{“5} Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”
 2. Eph. 2:8-9 ^{“8} For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.”
 3. Jer. 10:23 ^{“23} O LORD, I know that the way of man *is* not in himself: *it is* not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”
 4. Pro. 14:12 ^{“12} There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.”
 5. Rom. 10:1-2 ^{“1} Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. ²For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.”
 6. Cornelius was a good moral person, but he could not be saved by that morality.
 - a. Acts 10:2 ^{“2} *A devout man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.”
 - b. Acts 11:14 ^{“14} Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.”
- E. **In other words, with God it makes no difference what you or I think in religion.**

II. YE CANNOT BE SAVED OUTSIDE OF CHRIST.

- A. **This is the answer to the first point.**
- B. **John 14:6** ^{“6} Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
- C. **Acts 10:43** ^{“43} To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.”

- D. Acts 13:38-39** ³⁸ Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: ³⁹ And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.”
- E. 1 Tim. 2:5** ⁵ For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”
- F. Brethren sometimes need to learn this point in regards to the man in darkest Africa, etc.**
- G. Acts 4:12** ¹² Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”
1. Notice the phrase: **“in any other”**
 2. 2 Tim. 2:10 ¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the elect’s sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”
 3. Gal. 3:27 ²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
 - a. cf. Tit. 3:5 ⁵ Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”
 - b. Acts 22:16 ¹⁶ And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”
 - c. John 3:1-7 ¹ There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: ² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. ³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ⁴ Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? ⁵ Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.”
 - d. 1 Cor. 12:13 ¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

III. YE CANNOT BE SAVED AGAINST YOUR WILL

- A. When God created man He created him a free moral agent with the power of choice.**
1. Gen. 2:
 2. Deu. 30:19 ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”
 3. Jos. 24:15 ¹⁵ And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”
 4. John 5:39-40 ³⁹ Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. ⁴⁰ And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.”
 5. John 6:60-68 ⁶⁰ Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? ⁶¹ When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? ⁶² What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? ⁶³ It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. ⁶⁵ And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. ⁶⁶ From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. ⁶⁷ Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? ⁶⁸ Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.”
- B. Thus, the words “beseech, persuade and choose” are used by God to man.**

IV. YE CANNOT BE SAVED AS LONG AS YOU DELAY YOUR OBEDIENCE.

- A. **Acts 24:25** ^{“25} And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.”
- B. **Acts 26:28** ^{“28} Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”
- C. **Song - “Almost Persuaded.”**

Almost persuaded now to believe; Almost persuaded Christ to receive; Seems now some soul to say, Go, Spirit go thy way; Some more convenient day On thee I'll call.

Almost persuaded, come, come today; Almost persuaded turn not away; Jesus invites you here, Angels are ling'ring near, Prayers rise from hearts so dear, O wand'rer, come.

Almost persuaded, harvest is past! Almost persuaded doom comes at last! Almost cannot avail; Almost is but to fail; Sad, sad, that bitter wail—Almost—but lost!

Conclusion: If you have not been saved, why not submit yourself to God's Will and enjoy the blessings of salvation today.