

Salvation Grace Blessings

All that God Graciously Supplies to Believers
at the Moment of Salvation through Faith in Christ

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- Overview
 - Salvation Grace Blessings are grace gifts given to us by God at the moment of our salvation.
 - These gifts include...
 - ✦ Aspects of salvation itself.
 - ✦ Facets of our imperishable inheritance.
 - ✦ Spiritual tools for our Christian walk.
 - This list of gifts is specific to the dispensation in which we live, although some of these gifts are given to believers in every dispensation.
- Outline
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 - ✦ No Longer a Slave to the Old Sin Nature
 - ✦ Freedom from the Law
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 - ✦ Member of the Royal Priesthood
 - ✦ Member of the Royal Ambassadorship
- Additional Grace Assets
 - ✦ Indwelling of the Father and the Son
 - ✦ Presented as a Gift from the Father to the Son
- Ministries of the Holy Spirit
 - Baptism of the Holy Spirit
 - ✦ The verb for baptize in the Greek is βαπτίζω (baptizō) meaning to immerse or submerge.
 - ✦ At the moment of salvation we are simultaneously immersed into Christ [Gal 3:26-27] and the Body of Christ [1 Cor 12:13] by the Holy Spirit [Acts 1:5].
 - ✦ This is the only true baptism of salvation.
 - ✦ A believer may choose to acknowledge having been baptized by the Holy Spirit into Christ’s death, burial and resurrection through the Church Age ritual of water baptism [Rom 6:3-5; Acts 8:25-38].
 - ✦ Water baptism cannot be required for salvation because it is a work of man [Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5].
 - ✦ Passages that seem to confuse the issue.
 - John 3:5 – The water and the Spirit are one and the same in this verse [see John 4:10; 7:37-39].
 - Acts 2:38 – The verse should be translated, “Peter said to them, ‘Repent (and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ) for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the Holy Spirit.’” This agrees with Peter’s later assertions that repentance (i.e. a change of mind unto faith) is the key [Acts 5:31; 10:43].

○ Sealing of the Holy Spirit

- ✦ The verb for sealing in the Greek is σφραγίζω (sphragizō) meaning to set a seal upon.
- ✦ Seals have historically been used to...
 - Signify that something is genuine (i.e. coins, product labels, notary public).
 - Indicate ownership (i.e. cattle branding).
 - Prevent tampering (i.e. protective bottle caps).
 - Preserve something (i.e. canning).
- ✦ The king's signet ring which contained the seal of the kingdom was sometimes given as a pledge.
- ✦ We are sealed in Christ by God [Eph 1:13; 4:30].
- ✦ This seal of God indicates that...
 - God has completed in us the work of salvation.
 - We are God's own possession (Titus 2:14).
 - We cannot be tampered with by the adversary (i.e. we cannot be indwelt by demons).
 - We are secure in Christ for all of our time on this earth and for all of eternity.
- ✦ We are also given the Holy Spirit as a pledge of our inheritance [2 Cor 1:22; 5:5; Eph 1:13-14].

○ Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

- ✦ The verb for dwelling in the Greek is οικήω (oikeō) meaning to inhabit or dwell within.
- ✦ Every believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit [Rom 8:9-11; 1 Cor 3:16; 6:19].
 - This universal indwelling of believers was not present prior to the Church Age [John 7:39].
 - The book of Acts represents a transitional period during the early days of the Church, not the norm.
- ✦ The indwelling of the Spirit also protects believers from being indwelt by demons [2 Cor 6:14-16].

○ Filling of the Holy Spirit

- ✦ The verb for filling in the Greek is πληρόω (plēroō) meaning to fill up or complete.
- ✦ The filling of the Holy Spirit should not be confused with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
 - Believers cannot lose the indwelling of the Spirit.
 - Believers will lose the filling of the Spirit when they stop walking by means of the Spirit (quenching Him – 1 Th 5:19) and lapse into sin (grieving Him – Eph 4:30).
 - Believers are once again filled by the Spirit when they confess their sins and are forgiven/cleansed [1 Jn 1:9].

- ✦ Because we can lose the filling of the Spirit we are commanded to be filled with the Spirit [Eph 5:18].
 - God is the one who causes us to be filled so to obey this command we must avoid the rebellion and sin which will prevent us from being filled.
 - When a believer is “filled up” with the Spirit he is under the full control (influence) of the Holy Spirit and will produce righteous fruit in His power [Gal 5:22].
 - When a believer quenches/grieves the Holy Spirit he is subject to the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit [John 16:8] which is intended to result in repentance.
- ✦ The filling of the Spirit is not...
 - Related to spiritual maturity – any believer can obey God’s command to be filled.
 - An emotional experience or feeling – the filling of the Spirit is a spiritual condition in the believer’s life which may or may not be accompanied by an emotional response or feelings of elation, relief, etc.
 - Something that a believer must wait to receive as a “second blessing” – every believer is indwelt by the Spirit and filled with the Spirit at the moment of salvation.
- Reconciliation with God
 - Expiation
 - ✦ Expiation is defined as the extinguishing of guilt by the sufferance of penalty or some equivalent (Webster’s 1913).
 - ✦ Guilt is deemed to be “expiated” when punishment is levied on a suitable substitute.
 - ✦ Old Testament sacrifices teach us that our substitute must be innocent [Lev 9:1-4].
 - ✦ Jesus Christ paid the penalty of sin [Rom 6:23] when He bore our sins as an innocent substitute [1 Pet 2:21-24] and died for our sins [1 Cor 15:3].
 - Redemption
 - ✦ The word for redemption in the Greek is ἀπολύτρωσις (apolutrōsis) meaning liberation brought about by the paying of a ransom.
 - ✦ Our Savior Jesus Christ died as a ransom for us [Mark 10:45; Eph 1:7; 1 Pet 1:17-19].
 - ✦ As believers we have been purchased from the slave market of sin [1 Cor 6:18-20; Rom 6:16-22].
 - ✦ Our spiritual redemption is complete, but the redemption of our earthly bodies is yet to come [Rom 8:23 (cp. Rom 7:24); Eph 1:14; 4:30].
 - Unlimited Atonement
 - ✦ The verb for atone in the Hebrew is כָּפַר (kaphar) meaning to cover over.
 - ✦ Prior to the death of Christ, sins were passed over [Rom 3:25], but our sins are taken away [Jn 1:29; 1 Jn 3:5] which is the Greek word αἶρω (airō) meaning removed, so this should be “Unlimited Removal”.
 - ✦ Christ died for all of the sins of all of the people [1 John 2:2; 1 Tim 4:10] making salvation available to everyone [Titus 2:11].
 - ✦ At salvation the penalty of all our sins is removed.

- Propitiation
 - ✦ The word for propitiation in the Greek is ἱλασμός (hilasmos) meaning something which satisfies or appeases someone.
 - ✦ As unbelievers we could do nothing to measure up to God's righteous standards [Isa 64:6].
 - ✦ God's wrath is against the ungodliness and unrighteousness of unbelievers [Rom 1:18].
 - ✦ As our substitute Jesus Christ has satisfied the Father's righteous demands [Rom 3:21-26] and has appeased His wrath for us [Rom 5:9-10].
- Key Aspects of Salvation
 - Imputed Righteousness of God
 - ✦ The verb for impute in the Greek is λογίζομαι (logizomai) meaning to reckon or credit to one's account.
 - ✦ Imputed righteousness is that which is credited to our account [Gen 15:6; Rom 4:9].
 - ✦ This imputed righteousness is the righteousness of God [Rom 3:21-22; 2 Cor 5:21].
 - ✦ We receive God's righteousness by faith alone in Christ alone, not by any effort of our own [Phil 3:9; Rom 9:30-10:3; Eph 2:8-9].
 - Resultant Justification
 - ✦ The verb for justify in the Greek is δικαιόω (dikaioō) meaning to render a favorable verdict, thus declaring one to be righteous (innocent).
 - ✦ No form of "righteousness" which we attempt to obtain through a system of works (Law) will ever result in justification before God [Gal 2:16-21].
 - ✦ We are justified before God in the courtroom of heaven as a result of His righteousness which He imputes to us [Rom 4:1-5].
 - Positional Sanctification
 - ✦ The verb for sanctify in the Greek is ἀγιάζω (hagiazō) meaning to set apart or separate out from a group.
 - ✦ As believers we have been set apart, separated from the rest of mankind, in Christ Jesus [1 Cor 1:2] through faith in Him [Acts 26:18].
 - ✦ This is a "once for all time" sanctification that is based upon our position in Christ [Heb 10:10-14].
 - ✦ We can also be sanctified in our daily walk, but this sanctification is not permanent like our positional sanctification [1 Thess 4:3-7; 2 Tim 2:19-21].
 - Regeneration
 - ✦ The verb for regeneration in the Greek is παλιγγενεσία (paliggenesia) meaning a rebirth.
 - ✦ A similar phrase in the Greek is γεννάω ἄνωθεν (gennaō anōthen) meaning to be born again.
 - ✦ As believers we have undergone a second birth and are now spiritually alive [John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5].
 - ✦ We are a new creature in Christ [2 Cor 5:17] which has been created in righteousness [Eph 4:24].
 - ✦ Since we now have a living human spirit, we can understand spiritual truth [1 Cor 2:14-15].

- ✦ Our human spirit learns from the indwelling Holy Spirit [1 Cor 2:12-13].
- Eternal Life
 - ✦ As believers we have (are in possession of) eternal life [John 3:16, 36] at the moment of salvation.
 - ✦ Adam and Eve were spiritually alive in the garden [Gen 2:7], but died spiritually when they ate of the tree [Gen 2:17].
 - ✦ We should have confidence that the life we have in Christ is everlasting (without end) [1 John 5:11-13].
- A New Beginning in Grace
 - Placed Upon a Secure Foundation
 - ✦ Jesus Christ is our foundation, both collectively as the Church and individually.
 - He is our foundation [1 Cor 3:11].
 - He is our rock [1 Cor 10:4].
 - He is our cornerstone [Eph 2:20] and the cornerstone of the Church [1 Pet 2:4-6].
 - ✦ We should always rely upon the foundation which is Christ, building upon that foundation [1 Cor 3:12-15], and not attempt to find security in any other thing (including this country) [Luke 6:47-49].
 - No Longer a Slave to the Old Sin Nature
 - ✦ We have been freed from the power and influence of our old sin nature, but we can still present ourselves as slaves for obedience [Rom 6:16-19].
 - Our old sin nature does not disappear when we are saved [1 John 1:8, 10].
 - However, our old sin nature has been rendered powerless (crucified) [Rom 6:6] unless we allow ourselves to be carried away by our lusts [Jas 1:14-15].
 - ✦ If we walk by means of the Spirit, then we *will not* empower the old sin nature [Gal 5:16].
 - Freedom from the Law
 - ✦ As believers in the Church Age we are under Grace, not Law [John 1:17; Gal 5:18; Rom 6:14].
 - ✦ Through Christ, the Law is fulfilled in us [Ro 8:2-4] and we have been released from the Law [Ro 7:4-6].
 - Eternal Security
 - ✦ Every believer should be convinced that salvation cannot be lost [Rom 8:38-39].
 - ✦ That security is based upon the fact that God is faithful, even if we are faithless [2 Tim 2:13].
- True Empowerment
 - In the Eternal Plan of God
 - ✦ God has a plan and purpose for every believer [Luke 7:30; Acts 13:36; 2 Cor 5:5; 1 Thess 4:7].
 - ✦ As believers we have been given the opportunity to be pleasing to God [Rom 8:6-9; Phil 2:12-13; 4:18; 1 Thess 4:1; Heb 11:5-6; 13:15-16, 21] and to be His fellow-workers [1 Cor 3:9; 2 Cor 6:1; 1 Th 3:2].

- Access to God
 - ✦ Through the blood of Christ we have access to God the Father through prayer [Heb 4:14-16; 10:19-22].
 - ✦ Every believer has access to God [Eph 2:17-18].
- Availability of Divine Power
 - ✦ God strengthens us [2 Cor 12:10; Phil 4:13; Eph 3:16] and protects us [1 Pet 1:5].
 - ✦ We have all power available to us [Col 1:11] and our faith should rest on the power of God [1 Cor 2:5].
 - ✦ “It is natural for a people steeped in a religious civilization when they come to moments of great importance - maybe even crises, such as now we face - to turn to the Divine Power. I have no doubt that tonight throughout this country, and indeed throughout the free world, such prayers are ascending. This is a mighty force.” - DDE
- Problem Solving “Tools”
 - ✦ Walking by means of the Spirit to avoid the pitfalls of sin [Rom 8:4; 13:14; Gal 5:16].
 - ✦ Restoration through confession of sin when we do stumble [Ps 32:1-5; Ps 51:1-10; 1 Jn 1:9].
 - ✦ The guiding (leading) ministry of the Holy Spirit [Rom 8:14; Gal 5:18].
 - ✦ The believer’s rest [Ps 55:22; Mt 6:25-33; Rom 8:31; Phil 4:6; Heb 4:1-16; 1 Pet 5:6-7].
 - ✦ Sharing the joy of Christ [John 15:11; 17:13].
 - ✦ Occupation with Christ [Heb 12:1-3].
 - ✦ Love for God [Deut 6:5; 1 Cor 8:2-3; 1 John 5:1-3].
 - ✦ Love for one another [Mk 12:31; John 15:12; 1 John 3:11, 23; 4:7-21].
 - ✦ Recognition of the importance of learning God’s word [1 Thess 2:13; 2 Tim 2:15; Heb 4:12].
 - ✦ Recognition of God’s grace [Rom 11:6; 1 Cor 15:10; 2 Cor 9:8; 12:9; Gal 2:19-21; Eph 2:4-9; Col 1:6; Jas 4:6; 1 Pet 5:5, 10, 12].
 - ✦ Prayer [1 Sam 1:4-2:10; 7:1-9; 8:4-9; Ps 17:6-7; 69:13-17; 86:5-7; Pr 15:8, 29; Acts 1:24-26; 6:4; Rom 10:1; 12:12; 15:30-32; 2 Cor 13:7-9; Eph 1:18-19a; 6:18-20; Phil 1:4, 19; Col 4:2-4, 12; 1 Th 5:17, 25; 2 Th 1:11-12; 3:1-2; 1 Tim 4:4-5; 5:5; Phlm 22; Heb 13:18-19; Jas 5:13-18; 1 Pet 4:7].
 - ✦ Strength and stability of soul through spiritual growth in the Word of God [Acts 15:32; Eph 4:11-12; Col 1:9-12; 1 Th 3:1-3; 2 Th 3:3-5; 2 Ti 3:16-17; He 6:17-19; 1 Pt 5:10; 2 Pt 1:12].
- Spiritual Gifts
 - ✦ Every believer receives at least one spiritual gift [1 Pet 4:10] which is not to be neglected [1 Tim 4:14].
 - ✦ These gifts enable us (above/beyond) to serve our role in the body of Christ [1 Cor 12:11-18].
 - ✦ No gift is greater than any other [1 Cor 12:19-26].
 - ✦ Our gifts must be exercised in love [1 Cor 13:1-3] for the edification of others [Eph 4:11-13].
 - ✦ When you recognize your giftedness and employ your gift(s) in the strength which God supplies, He is glorified [1 Pet 4:11].

- Our Escrow Account
 - An Imperishable Inheritance
 - ✦ By the grace of God we are qualified to share in an eternal inheritance [Col 1:12; Heb 9:15].
 - ✦ Believers should anticipate this incorruptible inheritance which cannot be lost [1 Pt 1:3-4].
 - ✦ God has given us the Holy Spirit as a pledge of this inheritance [Eph 1:13-14; 2 Cor 5:5].
 - Our Resurrection Body
 - ✦ We have the promise of a new, imperishable body which we receive at the Rapture [1 Cor 15:42-57].
 - ✦ This body is in the likeness of Christ's [Ph 3:20-21].
 - Escrow Blessings
 - ✦ At the moment of salvation God blessed us with every spiritual blessing [Eph 1:3].
 - ✦ These spiritual blessings are designed for our time on earth and for all of eternity.
 - ✦ As we grow in the word of God, we begin to tap into more and more of these spiritual blessings in time.
 - ✦ When we are promoted to glory we will benefit from all of these blessings for all of eternity.
- Part of the Royal Family of God
 - Adoption into the Royal Family
 - ✦ We are adopted sons (and daughters) of God [Rom 8:15; Gal 4:5-7; Eph 1:5].
 - ✦ This adoption makes us part of God's household and, thus, we are royalty [Eph 2:19].
 - Residents of a New Domain
 - ✦ We have been rescued from the domain of darkness living under Satan's control [Col 1:13a].
 - ✦ We have been transferred into the kingdom of God to live under God's grace [Col 1:13b].
 - Members of the Royal Priesthood
 - ✦ In Israel the Levites served as the priests under the leadership of Aaron and his descendants.
 - ✦ In contrast, every believer in the Church is a member of a priesthood [1 Pet 2:5, 9].
 - Members of the Royal Ambassadorship
 - ✦ At the moment we are born again we find ourselves in a foreign land [Phil 3:20].
 - ✦ We are now ambassadors for Christ to this lost and dying world [2 Cor 5:20].
- Additional Grace Assets
 - Indwelling of the Father and the Son
 - ✦ God the Father indwells every believer today [John 14:23; Eph 4:6; 1 John 2:23].
 - ✦ God the Son indwells every believer today [Rom 8:10; Gal 2:20; Col 1:27].
 - Presented as a Gift from the Father to the Son
 - ✦ As members of the Royal Family of God, the Church Age saints are presented as a gift from God the Father to God the Son [John 17:2, 6, 9].
 - ✦ Jesus Christ will not cast these gifts out [John 6:37].