

"Saved! Saved! Saved!"

Philippians 1:6

Introduction: I love the word "saved." Although it is not a popular word among many religious groups today, it is still a word that I love. It is an excellent Bible word. I love saying that I am "saved."

The Bible term "saved" is not related to homemade phrases and ideas such as "joining the church, living right, doing the best I can, keeping the Ten Commandments, living by the Golden Rule, or being baptized." These things have nothing to do with salvation!

The word "saved" declares a wonderful Bible truth. The word simply means, "to be delivered, or brought out." We read in **Colossians 1: 13** that Christ "hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son."

That is what it means when we say that we are saved. We are saying that we have been brought out of the power of darkness, and brought in to God's marvelous light. It makes one want to sing with J. P. Schofield:

Saved by His power divine,
 Saved to new life sublime.
 Life now is sweet and my joy is complete,
 For, I'm saved, saved, saved!

Schofield wrote that song after one of Mordecai Ham's meetings in Gonzales, Texas. Ham was preaching on the subject, "Christ our Refuge." In the audience was a man that had killed 4 men. He listened to Ham explain that Christ is a refuge for sinners, of any and every stripe, and that the Cities of Refuge in the Old Testament are a type of Christ, who is a haven of hope and eternal forgiveness for all who will flee to Him.

Halfway through the sermon, the man jumped up from his seat and shouted, "**Saved! Saved! Saved!**" Sitting there in his seat, he found Christ as his refuge. Schofield was so inspired that the next afternoon he composed both the words and music for the song.

Salvation declares that God will save *anybody* and *everybody*, though they are *nobody*, and He will make them *somebody*. I can't think of any subject that I would rather preach than salvation!

Outline **"begin"**
 NOT a work we do for God but a work God does for us
 FATHER - chose us before foundation of the world
 Son - chose us when He chose to die for us
 Holy Ghost - chose us when He convicted us & drew us to Christ
 "We chose Him because He chose us"

1. The FIRST Work of Salvation!

Confident - judicial term - convincing argument proven by evidence... when all the facts & evidence are given, there remains no guesswork to what God has done in our lives!
 HE FOUND US!
 That God INITIATED the Moment of salv.
 "... he which hath begun..."
 God ORCHESTRATED the MIRACLE of salv.
 "... a good work in you..."
 noble/beneficial - benefits of salv. thru work of Christ!
 Consider some in that church

2. The FOLLOWING Work of Salvation!

God's work in CREATION ended on the 6th day
 God's work in CHRISTIANITY goes on to on every day
 * Conviction - Conversion - Consecration
 → PROGRESSIVE - IN us - THRU us - WITH us
 "Don't fly solo..."
 → PERMANENT - what God starts, HE FINISHES!
 Event? - End?

3. The FURTHER Work of Salvation!

Illust. - Spain, statue of Columbus (died 1506)
 (a iron destroying a Latin word that was once Spain's motto)
 Plus Ultra - Plus Ultra - MORE BEYOND
 "Move to Come" for all Christians
 God is not thru w/you yet - He's still working on me/you!
 "Look Back" - History "Look Ahead" - Science "Look Within" - Philosophy
 "Look Down" - Fatalism
 No Accident how & when you were saved...
 ex. 2 people sit in the same pew/service, sing same songs, hear same message, yet one feels nothing & other feels deep conviction - God is at work!

4. The FINAL Work of Salvation!

Michaelangelo's sculpture of Angel - "I just knocked off every part that did not look like an angel."
 Artist's portrait of a penniless beggar - Beautiful, handsome wealthy figure
 "That's the way I see you!"
 * Bible LOOK up

* The Finished Product "

Johnny Cash says - "I'm just an old chunk of coal, But I'm gonna be A Diamond Someday!"

- * Miracles at mount of Sali.
- * Adopted/Accepted
- * Ransomed/Redeemed
- * Renewed/Regenerated
- * Called/Cleaned/Converted
- * Just-/Sanct./Glorified
- * Translated/transformed
- * Forgiven/freed/Fulfilled etc.