

Salvation Words: Justified, Faith, Peace, Access, Grace, Hope, Sufferings, Love, Reconciled, Boast

Ten Salvation Words

- Entire Bible, beg to end, in variety ways, tells story God's plan to save us. You've got: OT history, story of God's ppl from whom Mes come; Pss, beautiful poetry, hymnal OT; prophecies, warn vs sin, foretell coming Xp; Gospels, actual wrds/wrks J; and NT letters, explain what J did for us, what that means for us.
- Lsn today: from NT letter, Rom, 5 – explains what J did for us, what means for us. Lesson: packed full very imp words that we need undrstd. Undrstdng these words will help better appret God's love for us, plan save us. So today let's walk thru lesson and focus on 10 salvation words.

1) *Justified*

- **Vs. 1a.** When hear justfd/justfctn, picture courtrm. Think: crmnl stndng b4 judge; proscntng attrny leveling accusatns; defense, no leg stand on, bec defendnt clearly guilty. But instead issuing guilty verdict, judge transfers punshmnt to inncnt substt, punshd in crmnl's place. Then judge looks at crmnl, slams gavel, "acquid, I declare not guilty." That's justfctn! God, judge; you/I, guilty crmnls; J inncnt substt, punshd in our place on cross (we desrvd). Bec/this, God forgvs sins, declares acquid, not guilty. Justfctn: central msg Bible, most imp tchnng Scrptr – God has justfid all ppl thru J. Wants evryone bel that. But not evryone does.

2) *Faith*

- So, **vs. 1ab.** Faith means bel/hold onto smthng tghtly. Like hand, holding book – strong grip/faith. If weak: knock out hand, drop, loose grip. If haps: not that doesn't exist, not real; just means not holding, dropped, lost. When you have faith J as Sav, bel him, means holding onto truth. If don't have faith/J, doesn't mean God's plan/slvtn doesn't exist, not real. Just means not yours persnly, dropped, lost. Faith: hand that holds onto blessings/God – tightly, strong faith. Don't want weak faith, devil easily knock away. So as Xians, want to hold on with all might; never want let go of what J's done for us. That's faith. Result is...

3) *Peace*

- **Vs. 1.** Opp of hostility/war. When nation at war, pray for peace; when ends, rejoice. Because of sinful nature, we were at war w/God; hostility btwn us. We rebelled against Creator; Lord angry re sins; condemned us; we hated him for it. But now, bec J (died/rose for our justfctn, and bel by faith), now we have peace! God not enemy; not hold sins vs us; not going to punish; not angry at us; loves us. Hostilty resolvd, war over. **Vs. 1a.**

4 & 5) *Access & Grace*

- Psg goes on: **vs. 2ab.** Next 2 words: access, grace. Access: get thru doorway; w/o, door's locked, not allowed in, room off limits. Think high security building: WH, Oval Office – can't just walk in; don't have access. W/o J: don't have access to God Fr. Can't pray, receive blessings, get to hvn – off limits, no access.
- But bec of J, **vs. 2a** (door now opened), **into vs. 2b.** Grace here pictrd as: room. You may not be allowed in Oval, but God lets you into his room, treasr chambr of grace. Here, not find gold/gems; but will: forgivns, love, salvtn, all blessings of God. And you have full access into that room of grace! All yours, everything! Grace defined: God's undsrvd love/kndnss to sinners. Acronym: God's riches at Xp's expense. Those riches: yours! You stand in treasr chambr. **Vs. 2ab.**

6) *Hope*

- There is 1 treasure of God's grace that is yours (belongs), but can't fully expernc yet: etrnal life w/J in hvn. J died/rose so smday: hvn. But that smday: in future, not now. So now, instead hvn, he gives you hope. **Vs. 2c.** Hope looks forward smthng wndrfl, don't have yet, but know w/confdnc will be yours in future. As Xians, we look forward: glory/God, eternity w/J in hvn. And we know smday, ours. God's promised, ours. God is promise keeper. So hope: not just wishful thinking: "Hope: present b-day; but never know." No, we have a sure/certain hope of eternal life w/J in hvn, based entirely on rock solid promise of God himself. Hope.

7) Sufferings

- #7 on list stands out, bec doesn't seem like salvtn word – suffrngs. Yet, vs. 3a. How in world!? And he's talking real suffrngs: loved one dies; get deadly disease; go thru chemo trtmnts; suffer from deprsn, lonlins; persecuted, bullied. Any number of suffrngs: press down, squeeze life/joy out us. How glory in that?
- I've heard ppl say, "I'm sick hearing: God's got plan; get me thru; work for good. Sick hearing! How: any good from this; how lovgng God put thru this?" Heard ppl talk like that. Smtms I've felt same way; all have.
- To all you out there suffrng now, whtvr may be, let me tell you this: this ch/Bible promss: God will work suffrng out for our good. Vs. 3b-4 (persvnc – patient endrnc; sense: make it thru by God's grace); (char – when go thru sffrng, don't immdtly blame/hate God for it); (hope – said: lookng forwrd to blssngs in future). Nutshell: God'll work suffrng out for good. Later in Rom, ch 8, promss same: **"We know that in all things [incl: bad things, suffrngs] ...good of those who love him" (28)**. So when you suffer, or if right now, whtvr, please bel God when says: he will work this out for your good, bec loves you.

8) Love

- Lest any doubt/that, next: love. Vs. 6-8. He doesn't just say loves; proves/demnsttrs it. On cross J suffrd/died for us – **"while we: still sinners."** If soldier, war zone, rescue inncnt civilian; or if parent, burnng buildng, rescue child – obvslly, love. But vs. 8. Enemies! And still died for us, rescue from hell.
- So here we have God's most pwrfl answer to questn, "If God loves me, why let suffer?" He says: "I love so much: I suffered death/hell in your place; crucified for you, to save you." That's how God proves/demnsttrs his love for us – thru Xp on cross. When we focus on Xp on cross: that gives us strength to bear our crosses, suffrngs, as J in Gos: **"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Mk 8:34)**. Can do that bec Xp took up cross his for us; and so we know that God loves us.

9) Reconciled

- And if God loves, then not enemy; which means we have peace w/God (earlier). Another word for peace: reconciliation. Vs. 10. Reconciled – what haps when enemies become friends. When husb/wife, brink/divrc, get counslng, restore marg: reconciled. When 2 friends, had falling out, haven't spoken yrs, finally rekindle frndshp: recncl. We've been recncl to God thru J. We're not enemies/God, but friends w/God, bec of J.

10) Boast

- That's smthng boast re. Last of these 10 salvtn words Paul uses in Rom 5: boast. Vs. 11abe. Usually being boastful, bad; means bragging/arrogant. Clearly we nothing brag re: God saved us; didn't deserve. But we do rejoice in it; so happy re it: just can't keep quiet. So we tell others, tell each other, teach children, praise God in worship, bec can't keep bottled in all this joy we have bec evrthng God's done for us. Just comes out! That's boasting in God – it's treasuring internally & sharing externally deep truths these salvtn words.
- This lesson packed full of theolgclly pwrfl salvtn words. Treasure them internally, and share externally.

Romans 5:1-11 (NIV)

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.