"Now is the Day of Salvation!"



2 Corinthians Chapter 6

(v1-2) Today's is the day of TRUE SALVATION!

(v1) Make sure you have not received the "grace of God in <u>vain</u>."
The word "vain" is kenos in Greek, defined <u>as empty, devoid of truth</u>, <u>destitute of spiritual wealth</u>, without the fruits of faith.

(v2) - <u>God HEARS us</u>! - Romans 10:13 - For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

- <u>God SAVES us</u>! - SALVATION defined: The salvation that comes through Christ may be described in three tenses: past, present, and future (see <u>Matthew 1:21; Acts</u> <u>4:12; Hebrews 2:10; 5:9</u>). When a person believes in Christ, he is saved (<u>Acts 16:31</u>). But we are also in the process of being saved from the power of sin (<u>Romans 8:13;</u> <u>Philippians 2:12</u>). Finally, we shall be saved from the very presence of sin (<u>Romans 13:11; Titus 2:12-13</u>). Salvation is freely offered to all men but is conditioned upon repentance and faith in Christ (see John 3:16; Hebrews 2:3). Salvation proceeds from the love of God, is based upon the atonement wrought by Christ, is realized in forgiveness, regeneration, and sanctification, and culminates in the resurrection and glorification of all true believers.

- <u>God HELPS us</u>! - John 14:15-18 - "If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, <u>and He will give you another Helper</u>, that He may abide with you forever — the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

John 14:25-27 - "These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. <u>But</u> <u>the Helper</u>, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, <u>He will teach you</u> <u>all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you</u>. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

<u>(v3-10) The Christian minister will have TRIBULATION!</u> (v4-5) A minister of the gospel never quits, NEVER EVER QUITS! (v6-7) A minister of the gospel bears SPIRITUAL FRUIT! (v8-10) A minister of the gospel has ALLIGATOR SKIN & SWIMS LIKE A DUCK!

(v11 – 7:1) Every Christian must have SEPARATION! (v11-16) We must recognize FIVE UNGODLY AFFECTIONS and SEPARATE from them: #1 – Fellowship (participation) with Lawlessness (illegality & wickedness)

#2 – Communion (partnership) with Darkness (sinners & sins of this world)

#3 – What accord (harmony, symphony) has Christ (including the Christian) with Belial (referring to Satan or a person who is godless or lawless)

#4 – Partnering with Unbelievers (heathens)

#5 – In agreement with Idols (heathen gods other religions)

- More Scriptures on separating from the world and the flesh - Romans 12:1-2; 16:17-20; Colossians 3:1-2; 1 Timothy 6:10-11; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 4:3-6; 1 John 4:6.

- Observe three classic cases of being unequally yoked:

(1) Abraham and Hagar (continuous warfare),

(2) Samson and Delilah (Physical destruction),

(3) Solomon and his foreign wives (loss of protection and blessing).

- Warren Wiersbe gives us a balanced approach to this passage, "In our desire for doctrinal and personal purity, we must not become so self-centered that we ignore the needy world around us. Our Lord was "holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners" (<u>Hebrews 7:26</u>), and yet He was "a friend of publicans and sinners" (<u>Luke 7:34</u>). Like a skillful physician, we must practice "contact without contamination." Otherwise, we will isolate ourselves from the people who need our ministry the most."

(v16-18) Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But <u>your iniquities have separated you from</u> your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

- All need to come to Jesus Christ and follow the Word of God before it is too late! – Remember 2 Thessalonians Ch. 2 (apostasy); Revelation Ch. 3:14-22 (corporate compromise).

(Ch. 7:1) "Therefore having these promises" - What promises? Re-read 6:16-18.

- <u>Let us have victory through faith!</u> – Hebrews 11:5-6 - By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

- Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.