



ETERNAL SALVATION

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Lesson 1

OUR NEED OF SALVATION

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Salvation is an extremely important doctrine which must be clearly understood. A curse is placed on anyone (even an angel!) who does not tell the true gospel. (See Galatians 1:8-9.) So the gospel of salvation must be explained accurately.

Salvation includes: (1) forgiveness of sins of the *past* (Romans 1:16); (2) power to overcome sin in this *present* life (Romans 6:14); and (3) *future* deliverance from the sin nature (Romans 8:29; 1 John 3:2). Salvation is by grace through faith. It is a gift—entirely free from works (Ephesians 2:8-9). Salvation comes first; works follow salvation (Titus 3:5-8).

Salvation depends upon the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. On earth, He proved He is sinless. By His death, He, the perfect One, took the punishment sinners deserve. He was our substitute. (See Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; 1 Peter 2:24.)

More than 200 times in the New Testament, it is declared that salvation is received by faith alone. (See, for example, Ephesians 2:8-9.) This faith must be placed in the Lord Jesus Christ. (See John 3:16; Acts 16:31.) Salvation is a free gift. Therefore, we who teach must *never* suggest that we give God anything. *He* gives it all. We receive this gift by placing our

trust in His Son. (See John 1:12.) To teach any different gospel from that of salvation by grace through faith, comes under the curse of Galatians 1:8-9. This is the strongest kind of warning!

This glorious salvation purchased by Christ with His own precious blood, lasts forever. It is eternal salvation. The moment a person is saved, the Holy Spirit places him in the body of Christ eternally (1 Corinthians 12:13). The believer is forever sealed by the Holy Spirit who dwells within the believer. (See Ephesians 1:13; 4:30.) The Father keeps the true believer eternally (John 10:28-30). One day in His own presence believers will be presented faultless (Jude 24). No believer can be accused of anything that would cause him to lose his salvation. God is the Judge of all. And He has already pronounced believers righteous—in right standing with Himself (Romans 8:33-34). Our Lord is continually making intercession for His own. That is enough to keep each true believer saved. God's Word promises that *nothing* can separate the believer from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus the Lord. (See Romans 8:29-39.) May every student you teach truly receive salvation and have the joy of knowing it is his forever!

Scripture to be studied: Hebrews 2:1-18; Luke 15:1-10

The aim of the lesson: To explain what salvation is and how it is obtained.

What your students should know: Christ is the only Saviour.

What your students should feel: A desire to receive Christ and His gift of salvation.

What your students should do:

Unsaved: Place their trust in Christ and receive salvation.

Saved: Thank God for this great salvation which brings deliverance from sin and Satan.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. Salvation: what it is (Luke 15:1-10).
2. The need for salvation (Romans 3:10-23; Hebrews 2:5-8).
3. Christ makes salvation possible (Hebrews 2:9-16; Revelation 13:8).
4. The blessings of salvation (Hebrews 2:11-13; 7:26b).

The verse to be memorized:

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?
 (Hebrews 2:3a)

THE LESSON

What do you suppose the Hebrews (Jews) thought when they read the letter addressed to them? (That letter is now part of the Bible and is entitled *The Epistle to the Hebrews*.) It was written by the hand of a man. Do you think the Jews knew it actually came from God? (**Teacher:** Encourage discussion.)

The prophets, angels, and Moses were extremely important to the Hebrews. But God wanted them to know that His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is far better than all others. Because He is the greatest messenger of God, His message is greatest. So the Hebrews did much thinking when they heard this read: "We ought to give more careful attention to the things we have heard. If we do not, we may slip away from them." (See Hebrews 2:1.)