

## On Being Saved

Hello, God's People – Here are a few more thoughts on the question of salvation and “being saved.” First, we must always remember that our salvation depends on God's grace and on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among human beings by which we are to be saved.” Acts 4:12

Sometimes it seems we might think that we can bring about our own salvation, forgetting that the gift of faith and thus salvation comes about through God's grace working in our lives through the Holy Spirit. This is where we turn to the wonderfully cautionary verse Patricia quoted from the second chapter of Ephesians:

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith –and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

Pride has no place in the life of those saved by Jesus Christ.

Yet, what are we saved from? Joseph A. Fitzmyer answers this question in his commentary on the Gospel of Luke:

“‘Salvation’ denotes the deliverance of human beings from evil, physical, moral, political or cataclysmic. It connotes a victory, a rescue from a state of negation and a restoration to wholeness or integrity. As applied to the Christ-event the wholeness to which human beings are restored is a sound relation to God himself. That would imply a rescue from sin, the state of alienation from God and, in terms of a post-NT theology, a deliverance from eternal damnation.”

You have received the gift of new life and been brought into a right relationship with God. Now what?

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