

Fundamentals of the Christian Faith

Salvation – Part 4: Irresistible Grace Lesson 8

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
July 22, 2018*

Fundamentals of the Christian Faith

- ▶ The importance of doctrine in faith and practice
- ▶ The Bible
- ▶ The Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- ▶ Creation
- ▶ Salvation
 - Pelagianism – heresy
 - Arminianism
 - Calvinism
- ▶ A need for Christian charity

Doctrine of Salvation

T	<u>Total depravity</u>	– the sinner
U	Unconditional election	– The Father
L	Limited atonement	– The Son
I	<u>Irresistible grace</u>	– The Holy Spirit
P	Perseverance of the saints	– the saint

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Lesson 8: Irresistible Grace

- ▶ The impossibility of salvation
- ▶ The nature of salvation
- ▶ The process of salvation
- ▶ Objections

The Impossibility of Salvation

- ▶ Dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1)
- ▶ Under condemnation (John 3:36; Romans 5:18)
- ▶ Incapable of understanding (1 Corinthians 2:14)
- ▶ Unable to read (Isaiah 29:10-12)
- ▶ A valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37:1-4)
- ▶ Unable to please God (Romans 8:6-8)

The Nature of Salvation

▶ Justification

- Romans 4:24-25 – the redemptive work of Jesus Christ on the cross
- Ephesians 1:7; Acts 10:43 – forgiveness of sins
- Romans 3:21-22; 4:3; – righteousness
- Habakkuk 2:4 (Rom 1:17; Gal 3:11; Heb 10:38) – the just shall live by faith

▶ Spiritual life

- 1 Corinthians 15:45 – made spiritual in Christ
- Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:27 – Christ in me
- 2 Peter 1:4 – partakers of the Divine nature

▶ A Divine work of the Triune God

- Is it universal or particular (limited)?

The Work of Salvation

- ▶ The new birth by the Spirit of God - John 3:1-9; 1 Peter 1:22-23
- ▶ Quickening – Ephesian 2:1-8
- ▶ An act of creation - 2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 2:10
- ▶ Make something from nothing – Romans 4:17
- ▶ Regeneration – Titus 3:5
- ▶ A new creature – 2 Corinthians 5:17

The Certainty of Salvation

- ▶ John 6:37, 44, 63-65 – the Father gives to the Son and they come
- ▶ Acts 16:14 – heart opened to receive the message of Paul
- ▶ Romans 8:28-30 – the called will be justified and glorified
- ▶ 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 – through sanctification by the Spirit
- ▶ Acts 9:1-2, 20 – the example of Paul

The Means of Salvation

- ▶ Ezekiel 37:5f –Ezekiel preaches and the Spirit brings life
- ▶ Romans 10:17 – faith comes by hearing
 - Ephesians 2:8-9 – a gift of God
 - Philippians 1:31 – given to us to believe
 - Hebrews 12:2 – Author and Finisher of our faith
- ▶ 2 Timothy 2:24-26; Acts 5:31; 11:18 - Repentance
- ▶ Romans 1:16 – the Gospel is the power of God for salvation
- ▶ Hebrews 4:12 – the Word is quick (living) and powerful
- ▶ 1 Peter 1:23, 25 – born again through the living Word of God
- ▶ John 3:3-9 – the agent of salvation is the Spirit of God
- ▶ Regeneration precedes faith

Objections

- ▶ The question of the freedom of the will
 - Free moral agency
 - An illustration – the freedom of God
 - The freedom of salvation (John 8:32)
- ▶ Does responsibility imply ability?
 - An illustration – the resurrection of Lazarus (John 11:38-44)
- ▶ Many resist the Gospel and never come to salvation
 - The general call and the special/effectual call

The Irresistible Grace of God

- ▶ The Divine work of salvation in those chosen by God (Ephesians 1:4)
- ▶ Efficacious Grace – Inevitable Salvation (John 1:13; 6:44)
- ▶ What difference does it make?
 - Exhortation to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)
 - To God be the glory (1 Corinthians 1:30-31; Jeremiah 9:24)
- ▶ Preach the Word