

Is Salvation A Free Gift?

If you are offered something for “free” then you expect to receive it without having to meet any conditions. But is salvation is “free” in that sense? The Scriptures teach that salvation is promised to those who “obey” Jesus (Heb 5:9). Salvation is the promise of eternal life for the soul in heaven (cf. 1 Pet 1:4, 5, 9). Obedience, then, is a small price to pay for such a grand promise. But obedience implies conditions or terms, and the terms of salvation are revealed in the New Testament (Matt 28:18-20; Luke 24:46-47; Acts 2:38; 3:19).

What then is “free” in the matter of salvation? Paul said the “free gift” is “the grace of God and ... the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ” (Rom 5:15). We do not deserve God’s grace or favor – “But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:8). ***There is your free gift!*** God paid the debt of our redemption from sin with the blood of His Son.

The grace of God is extended to us as a “free gift,” we did nothing to deserve the chance to go to Heaven, but we must avail ourselves of God’s gracious offer of salvation “by faith” (Eph 2:8). Every time the phrase “by faith” is used in the Bible it implies obedience to God (cf. Heb 11).

The Grace of God is free! But what is the price of obedience? Jesus said the price of obedience is self-denial: loving Him more than family, possessions and life itself (Luke 9:23; 14:26-33). It is no wonder that He warned us to count the cost.

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Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.