

THE COMMON SALVATION

By Keith Greer

“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” {Jude 3} This salvation is called COMMON because:

Of its source. *“So that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.” {Acts 17:27}* *“For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.” {Romans 10:12}* The source of our common salvation is Jesus Christ {Acts 4:12}. He is the center piece of the plan that God put together before He spoke one thing into existence.

Every person needs it. *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” {Romans 3:23}* *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” {1 John 1:8}* *“But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.” {Galatians 3:22}* All people have sinned; therefore, all have in common the need for salvation. Every person who is, has been, or will be dead needs salvation. Sin separates us from God and places every one of us in the same spiritual strait—out of fellowship with God!

It is the theme of all gospel preaching. *“Then He said to them, Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” {Luke 24:46,47}* The theme of our common salvation is Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. *“And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.” {Acts 10:42,43}*

Of its requirements. *“Then Peter opened his mouth and said: In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him..” {Acts 10:34,35}* God places upon every lost person the very same conditions. Unless we abide by His terms, we cannot be saved. By reading about the first conversions—the Jews in Acts 2, and the Gentiles in Acts 10--we can readily see that God requires the same of both.

Of its blessings. *“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” {Galatians 3:26-29}* *All Christians are of Abraham’s spiritual seed and heirs of God’s promise to him. Every believer who is in Christ is entitled to every spiritual blessing {Ephesians 1:3}*. All men have these blessings in common.

Of what it offers. *“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will*

find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light. {Matthew 11:28-30} The Lord invites all people to accept His offer of rest for their weary souls!

Dear reader, because of this common salvation, the Lord instructed His apostles to go into *“all the world and preach the gospel.”* God desires that all men come to the knowledge of the truth so they can be partakers of this **“common salvation.”** Are you ready to accept the blessings it offers and do what the Lord requires of you? ***