



Salvation

CLOTHED WITH GARMENTS OF SALVATION

JAMES CLINTON

(John 3:16)



To be saved" means deliverance from impending destruction. In the Bible, the word "salvation" ultimately refers to deliverance from sin and its final consequences—death and eternity in hell. The most important decision we will ever make in this life is what we will do with God's offer of salvation.

The heart of the gospel ("good news") is expressed in John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." God's love is expressed in this willingness to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place and atone for our sins. His sacrificial death for our sins is the only basis of our acceptance by God. The apostle Peter said, "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

SALVATION NEEDED

Everyone needs to be saved. Romans 3:23 says that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Because of sinful nature and sinful actions, all have come short of the standard of spiritual perfection. All need God's grace and forgiveness to pardon sins and provide the gift of eternal life.

The Bible describes humanity's spiritual condition as "unclean" (Is. 64:6), "lost" (Luke 19:10), "condemned" (John 3:18), and "blind" (John 12:40). Spiritually, there is nothing to commend the lost to God. They are helpless to save themselves. The lost have no personal relationship with God. They are needy, and only He can meet the need. God alone can forgive sins, save souls, and bless lives. The lost can only ask, like the Philippian jailer, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30).

SALVATION PROVIDED

God loves us so much that He sent His Son to be our Savior. "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). Jesus died for us that we might live with God forever. He took the punishment for our sins so that we might be saved. Second Corinthians 5:21 states that God "made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

The apostle John expressed this gift of salvation when he wrote, "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10). Jesus demonstrated God's love for us when He died for our sins on the Cross. The apostle Peter said, "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God" (1 Pet. 3:18).

The atoning death of Jesus Christ for our sins is the heart of the gospel. Paul said, "I declare to you the gospel . . . that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:1, 3, 4). The death of Christ secured our salvation; His resurrection guarantees our eternal life.

SALVATION RECEIVED

The Hebrew term for "salvation" in the Old Testament is *yeshu'ah*, describing deliver-

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ance from distress as well as the state of well-being that results from being delivered. The New Testament uses the Greek word *soteria*, a term that includes not just deliverance, but God's forgiveness of sins. The apostle Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16). The Bible explains that salvation is based upon God's grace and accomplished by Christ's sacrificial death for sin: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). Salvation includes *justification* (the act of being declared just or righteous by God) and *redemption* (being freed by the payment of Christ's blood for sin).

Salvation is a gift of God's grace. We don't deserve it and we can't earn it. It must be received as a gift. John 1:12 says, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." As incredible as it sounds, salvation is the gift of God. It can only be received by faith. When we believe that Jesus died for *our* sin and in *our* place, we can only respond with love and gratitude. As the hymn writer said, "Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe."

The invitation of Scripture is clear. Romans 10:13 says, "Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." If you have never asked Jesus Christ to be your Savior, you can ask Him right now. In fact, you could pray something like this:

Dear God, thank You for loving me so much that You sent Your Son to die for my sins. I admit that I need Your love and forgiveness. I believe that Jesus paid for my sins on the Cross, and I receive Him by faith as my personal Savior. I accept the free gift of salvation as my very own.

Pray this from your heart. God will hear your prayer, forgive your sins, and give you the gift of eternal salvation. Now seek out a Bible-believing church and live for Christ for the rest of your life!

FURTHER MEDITATION:

Other passages to study about the issue of salvation include:

- > Psalms 3:8; 119:155
- > Zechariah 9:9, 10
- > John 7:37, 38
- > Romans 1:16; 10:10
- > 2 Corinthians 5:17
- > Philippians 1:6; 2:12, 13
- > 2 Timothy 3:15
- > Hebrews 2:3; 4:16

To Learn More: Turn to the key passage note on salvation at John 3:16 on page 1374. See also the personality profile note of Nathanael on page 1367.



Him should not perish but^a have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

¹⁷For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

¹⁸He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned al-

ready, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

JOHN THE BAPTIST EXALTS CHRIST

²²After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized. ²³Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, be-

cause there was much water there. And they came and were baptized. ²⁴For John had not yet been thrown into prison.

²⁵Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. ²⁶And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

JOHN 3:16

are coming to Him!"

²⁷John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' ²⁹He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. ³⁰He must increase, but I must decrease. ³¹He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³²And

3:15 ^aNU-Text omits *not perish but*.

KEY PASSAGE



Salvation

GOD'S GREAT LOVE

(3:16)

God created and loves us, but sin separates us from Him. For us to be saved, sin had to be removed, its penalty had to be paid. God, in His great love, sent His only Son to die on the Cross in our place (Rom. 5:8). Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, God offers salvation to all.

- > Salvation comes through confessing and believing (Rom. 10:9).
- > Salvation is a brand new start, a new birth (John 3:16; Titus 3:5).
- > Salvation is a gift, not a reward (Eph. 2:8, 9).
- > Salvation makes people new creations (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15).
- > Salvation gives eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

To be saved means to trust in Christ alone for salvation. This happens when a person confesses to being a sinner, repents of it, and asks Christ to save them and take control of their life. Doing this isn't difficult, but it is by far the most important decision a person can ever make.

To Learn More: Turn to the article about salvation on pages 1372, 1373. See also the personal-profile of Nathanael on page 1367.

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they followed Jesus. ³⁸Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?"

They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?"

³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).

⁴⁰One of the two who heard John *speak*, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ).

⁴²And he brought him to Jesus.

Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah.^a You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

PHILIP AND NATHANAEL

⁴³The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsai-

da, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"

⁴⁸Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

⁴⁹Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

⁵⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than

1:42 ^aNU-Text reads *John*.

PERSONALITY PROFILE



Salvation

NATHANAEL: FROM SKEPTIC TO DISCIPLE

(JOHN 1:48)

Nathanael was honest and straightforward. He also was not easily impressed.

When his friend Philip came to tell him that he and others had found the Messiah, a man named Jesus who came from Nazareth, Nathanael merely replied, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46). Obviously that low-class town couldn't produce anything special, certainly not the Jews' Messiah—or so Nathanael thought.

To his credit, however, when invited by Philip to "come and see" this man, Nathanael went. He was skeptical, but curious. Jesus' first words to Nathanael reveal His insight into people's character: "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" (John 1:47). Jesus perceived Nathanael's straightforward honesty. He also had seen Nathanael's whereabouts when Philip found him. While on earth, Jesus used His miraculous powers for His kingdom's sake, and here He gained a disciple when Nathanael perceived that power in Jesus. Immediately, Nathanael realized that Jesus was indeed the Son of God, the King of Israel.

Nathanael had successfully moved from skeptic to disciple. Jesus gave him exactly the proof he needed to help him understand and believe. Jesus is always working in people's hearts, bringing them to exactly the right point—through inner turmoil, or serious questioning, or outward circumstances—to help them put it all together and see Jesus. When they accept Him, Jesus gives them salvation and eternal life.

Salvation is only a prayer away. Christ does not make it difficult to be saved, because He wants people to come to Him. Don't look for proof—look for Jesus.

To Learn More: Turn to the article about salvation on pages 1372, 1373. See also the key passage note at John 3:16 on page 1374.

JONAH THROWN INTO THE SEA

¹⁰Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" ⁴ For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. ¹¹Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?"—for the sea was growing more tempestuous.

¹²And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest *is* because of me."

¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴Therefore they cried out to the LORD and said, "We pray, O LORD, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O LORD, have done as it pleased You." ¹⁵So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the LORD and took vows.

JONAH'S PRAYER AND DELIVERANCE

¹⁷Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly. ²And he said:

"I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction,
And He answered me.

"Out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
And You heard my voice.

³ For You cast me into the deep,
Into the heart of the seas,
And the floods surrounded me;

All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

Then I said, 'I have been cast out of Your sight;
Yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵ The waters surrounded me, *even* to my soul;

The deep closed around me;
Weeds were wrapped around my head.

⁶ I went down to the moorings of the mountains;
The earth with its bars *closed* behind me forever;

Yet You have brought up my life from the pit,
O LORD, my God.

⁷ "When my soul fainted within me,
I remembered the LORD;
And my prayer went *up* to You,
Into Your holy temple.

⁸ "Those who regard worthless idols
Forsake their own Mercy.

⁹ But I will sacrifice to You
With the voice of thanksgiving;
I will pay what I have vowed.
Salvation *is* of the LORD."

¹⁰So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry *land*.

JONAH PREACHES AT NINEVEH

3 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great

SOUL NOTE



Undeserving (2:1-7) Jonah didn't deserve God's forgiveness. God had said, "Go," and Jonah had run away (1:2, 3). His conscience hadn't even seemed to bother him, for during his flight from God he slept soundly (1:5). During the storm, the pagan sailors had to remind Jonah to pray (1:6). Jonah had persistently disobeyed God. Not until Jonah sank to the gloomy depths and faced certain death did he cry out to God. Mercifully and miraculously, God answered. The story of Jonah teaches that God saves the undeserving—whether a pagan nation or a wayward individual.

Topic: Salvation

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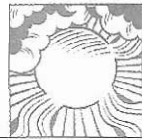
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Expensive (19:28-34) If it weren't for being holy, God could have chosen to ignore sin. If it weren't for being loving, He could have condemned humanity to hell the moment Adam sinned. Being both holy and loving, God did neither of these. Instead, He chose to deal with the ultimate consequences of sin—death and separation from God—by having His Son take those consequences upon Himself. Jesus took our penalty, dying in our place. When we accept that sacrifice on our behalf, we are given salvation and eternal life. God looks at us and no longer sees our sins. Instead, He sees that His Son died so that we could be saved. **Topic: Salvation**

SOUL NOTE

19:36 ^aExodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12; Psalm 34:20
19:37 ^aEzekiah 12:10

20 THE EMPTY TOMB
 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to

them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."
³Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. ⁴So they did not break His legs. ⁵And he ran Peter and came to the tomb first. ⁶And he stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. ⁷Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. ⁹For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.
 Mary Magdalene sees the risen Lord. ¹¹But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. ¹³Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."
¹⁴Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have taken away my Lord, where do you put Him?"

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Doubt

to Him, "Sir, if you have taken away my Lord, where do you put Him?" ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have taken away my Lord, where do you put Him?" ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have taken away my Lord, where do you put Him?"

but, in reality, until they believe, they do not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have taken away my Lord, where do you put Him?"

tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be beaten with rods. ²³And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

THE PHILIPPIAN JAILER SAVED

²⁵But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. ²⁷And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. ²⁸But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

²⁹Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

PAUL REFUSES TO DEPART SECRETLY

³⁵And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Let those men go."

³⁶So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have

sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace."

³⁷But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out."

³⁸And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans. ³⁹Then they came and pleaded with them and brought *them* out, and asked *them* to depart from the city. ⁴⁰So they went out of the prison and entered *the house* of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

PREACHING CHRIST AT THESSALONICA

17 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." ⁴And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas.

ASSAULT ON JASON'S HOUSE

⁵But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious,^a took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. ⁶But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren

^{17:5} ^aNU-Text omits *who were not persuaded*; M-Text omits *becoming envious*.

SOUL NOTE



What You Can Do (16:30-34) When the jailer saw the prison walls crumbled around him, he fell trembling before Paul and Silas, and asked, "What must I do to be saved?" That's the question! So often people ask, "What must I do to be happy?" or "What must I do to be successful?" But only one question makes a difference for eternity. As Paul told the jailer, there's only one answer to the question "What must I do to be saved?" and that's "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ." **Topic: Salvation**

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GREETING

¶ Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God ²which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, ³concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴and declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. ⁵Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, ⁶among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;

have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles. ¹⁴I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. ¹⁵So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

THE JUST LIVE BY FAITH

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, ^afor it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."^a

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

ROMANS 1:17

⁷To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

DESIRE TO VISIT ROME

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. ⁹For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers, ¹⁰making request if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you. ¹¹For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—¹²that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

¹³Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now), that I might

GOD'S WRATH ON UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

²⁴Therefore God also gave them up to un-


1:16 ^aNU-Text omits *of Christ*. 1:17 ^aHabakkuk 2:4

SOUL NOTE



Not Ashamed (1:16) Paul had not yet been to Rome when he wrote this letter, and he longed to visit the church there (see 1:10-13; 15:22-29). In this letter, written to believers Paul had never met, he says he is not ashamed of the gospel message. It is "the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes." All who believe and accept the message of Christ dying on the Cross for their sins will be saved. So we too should be bold about sharing that message. Like Paul, we praise God for providing a way for people to be saved. **Topic: Salvation**

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GOD'S SUPREME REVELATION

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by *His Son*, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself^a purged our^b sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

THE SON EXALTED ABOVE ANGELS

⁵For to which of the angels did He ever say:

*"You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You?"^a*

And again:

*"I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son?"^b*

when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:

"Let all the angels of God worship Him."^a

⁷And of the angels He says:

*"Who makes His angels spirits
And His ministers a flame of fire."^a*

⁸But to the Son He says:

*"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness is the scepter
of Your kingdom*

⁹ *You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."^a*

¹⁰And:

*"You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.*

¹¹ *They will perish, but You remain;
And they will all grow old like a garment;*

¹² *Like a cloak You will fold them up,
And they will be changed.
But You are the same,
And Your years will not fail."^a*

¹³But to which of the angels has He ever said:

*"Sit at My right hand,
Till I make Your enemies Your
footstool?"^a*

¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

DO NOT NEGLECT SALVATION

2 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. ²For if the word spoken through

1:3 ^aNU-Text omits *by Himself*. ^bNU-Text omits *our*. **1:5** ^aPsalm 2:7 ^{b2} Samuel 7:14
1:6 ^aDeuteronomy 32:43 (Septuagint, Dead Sea Scrolls); Psalm 97:7 **1:7** ^aPsalm 104:4
1:9 ^aPsalm 45:6, 7 **1:12** ^aPsalm 102:25-27
1:13 ^aPsalm 110:1

SOUL NOTE



Neglect or Accept? (2:3) The author of Hebrews was issuing a wake-up call to his readers not to "neglect so great a salvation." To "neglect" here means hearing about the offer of salvation in Christ and then setting it aside without accepting it.

The danger of neglect is that the offer will be forgotten in the midst of life's busyness. If people neglect the offer, they will have "no escape" on the day of judgment. People must accept this great offer of salvation in Christ. There will be no better offer anytime or anywhere. Tomorrow may be too late. **Topic: Salvation**