

Winter Park Christian Church: Pastor Samuel Ruiz
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Active Faith Under Godly Provision

June 24th & 25th, 2017

Philippians 2:12-13

As we consider this passage we may wonder, how much does salvation depend on our actions?

We know that salvation is a gift from God and does not depend on our actions at all.

But what does it mean to be obedient to the Lord as we work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, knowing that God is the one who works in us, both to will and to work for His good pleasure?

What is our participation in our own Salvation?

❖ Salvation is exclusively a work of Divine Nature.

- In Christ, we are forgiven.

Colossians 2:13 "And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,"

- We are crucified with Christ and dead to the world.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

- We are resurrected with Christ and have newness of life.

Colossians 3:3 "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

❖ Our salvation is a work of God that takes place in the heart of a person and, although it is internal, salvation must be actively lived in an evident way through the power of God and the human will.

- Without the supernatural power of God, the human will is in complete bondage to sin.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:12-14
 - Titus 3:3-5

The challenge of God's provision and human responsibility

❖ The importance of our obedience to the Lord

- My responsibility – I obey as a follower of Christ.
- The Grace of God – God is at work in my own life so that I am able to obey Him.
- We struggle with our disobedience and our desire to please the Lord by obeying His commandments.

❖ Paul addresses the Lordship of Christ and our submission to Him

- Jesus is Lord and every human being will one day acknowledge His Lordship. *Philippians 2:9-11*
- Therefore, if we acknowledge and submit to His Lordship, obedience begins to take place, becoming an evidence of the salvation that God has provided for us. *Philippians 2:12*

❖ Obedience in the life of a Christian must be a reality that is achieved only by His grace, but it always requires our submission and action.

- 2 Peter 1:3-10

- God is the initiator regarding human salvation, and obedience that depends on the grace of God is the result in the life of a believer.

We must deal with sin in our Christian life, and the serious consequences when we don't overcome it.

Work out: (from kata and ergazomai) to work out, produce, accomplish. ¹

- ❖ To work out our salvation is to put our faith in action and obey His commandments.
 1. We pursue to be more like God. *Philippians 2:1-5*
 2. We overcome our self-interest. *Philippians 2:5-8*
 3. We serve others well. *Philippians 2:2-4, 2:14*
- ❖ We work out our salvation with fear and trembling.
 - We work out our salvation doing His will out of reverence, seriously honoring and worshiping the Lord, as well as understanding the seriousness of sin.
 - We must realize the greatness of the gift that has been given to us.
Luke 12:48b "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more."
 - In the same way, we must realize the seriousness of sin and its consequences.
Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

Is God's provision a reality in our lives and are we continually depending on Him?

- ❖ To work out our own salvation is to grow into the maturity that God intends for us according to His will, power, and good pleasure.
 - Colossians 1:27-29
 - We often desire to have a "maintenance free" Christianity.
 - As we depend on God, we will always find the victory!

Endnotes:

¹ "Strong's Greek 2716. Katērgazomai, κατεργάζομαι." *Bible Hub*. © 2004 - 2016 by Bible Hub. <<http://biblehub.com/greek/2716.htm>>.

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