

The Helmet of Salvation

INTRODUCTION.

- A. *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”* (Ephesians 6:17)
- B. The Roman soldier's helmet was fashioned from bronze or iron. Two cheek-pieces protected the sides of the soldier's face. For the sake of comfort, soldiers frequently lined their helmets with sponge or felt.
- C. The Roman soldier's helmet protected his skull and neck from his enemy's weapons and falling debris.
- D. A *centurion* was a Roman military officer who commanded approximately 100 soldiers, although the exact number could range from 60 to 160. The New Testament mentions two centurions, Cornelius and Julius, by name (**Acts 10:1-22; 27:1**).
- E. The helmet of salvation points to God's ultimate victory over the forces of evil. Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection from the dead provides all believers with freedom from the bondage of sin. Belief in Jesus also provides believers with eternal life in heaven.
 - 1. To put on “the helmet of salvation” is to have assurance that Jesus has saved you, not because of good deeds, but because of his mercy. (2 Timothy 1:8-10)
 - 2. To put on “the helmet of salvation” is to know that every believer is a “new creation,” no longer living for selfish purposes but living for the Lord. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
 - 3. To put on “the helmet of salvation” is to accept that you are in a battle and will be

persecuted for believing in Christ. Keep the faith and you will be blessed.

(Matthew 5:11, 12)

4. To put on “the helmet of salvation” is to look forward to being delivered into eternal life. (John 3:16)
 5. To put on “the helmet of salvation” is to know that God will forgive his followers when they fall and ask for forgiveness. (1 John 1:9)
- F. Consider now Acts 4:10-12.
1. The term Salvation implies that there is danger. It also implies deliverance.
 - a. Israel’s deliverance from bondage. (Exodus 14:13)
 - b. Our deliverance from sin. (Colossians 1:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10)

I. LET US CONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF SALVATION.

- A. Our salvation from any danger such as fire, water, poverty, sickness, and death is important.
- B. The importance of Salvation is shown by its cost. (Hebrews 9:28)
- C. The importance of Salvation is shown by its limits placed on it. (Acts 4:12)
- D. Without Salvation we are lost. (Luke 19:10; John 8:21)
- E. Salvation rescues us from death. (James 5:20)

II. WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF SALVATION?

- A. Salvation is perfect in nature.
 1. We know that the Levitical law made nothing perfect. (Hebrews 7:19)
 2. Salvation under the Levitical law was temporary and partial. (Hebrews 10:1-4)
 3. The good news is that deliverance is complete under the gospel. (Hebrews 8:12)
- B. Salvation is personal in application.

1. We must bear our own individual sin. (Ezekiel 18:20)
 2. We must each account for “himself.” (2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:13)
 3. We must work out our own salvation. (Philippians 2:12; Acts 2:38-40)
- C. Salvation is present in obligation.
1. Salvation is an obligation so that we may be freed from sin in this world.
(Romans 6:17, 18; 8:2)
 2. We must be prepared before the Lord returns. Luke 12:45-47
 3. For now is the day of salvation. (2 Corinthians 6:2)
- D. Salvation is free in bestowal.
1. Salvation is a gift of God. (Romans 5:15-18; Ephesians 2:8)
 2. We shall never merit Salvation. (Luke 17:10)
- E. Salvation is conditional in reception.
1. We must do His will. (Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:8-9; Revelation 22:14)
 2. We must work out our salvation. (Philippians 2:12; Acts 10:35)
 3. We must order our lives aright. (Psalms 50:23)
 4. If Salvation is conditional, what are those conditions that God has placed upon us:
 - a. Faith. (Acts 16:31)
 - b. We must also have repentance. (2 Corinthians 7:10)
 - c. We must have confession. (Romans 10:9-10)
 - d. We must have baptism. (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21)
 - e. We must have perseverance. (Matthew 24:12-13; Revelation 2:10)
- F. Salvation is universal in Provision.

1. It is for “whosoever will.” (Revelation 22:17; John 3:16; Mark 16:15)
 2. Christ died for all of us. (Hebrews 2:9; 1 John 2:2)
 3. God is able and willing to save all of us. (Hebrews 7:25; 1 Timothy 2:3-4)
 4. It is a common salvation. (Jude 1:3)
- G. Salvation is Great in Value.
1. It is called the “great salvation.” (Hebrews 2:3)
 2. Its greatness is emphasized by the torture of hell. (Hebrews 10:28-29; Revelation 14:9-11)
 3. Salvation is Great in Value by bliss of heaven. (Revelation 21:4)
- H. Salvation is eternal in its duration.
1. Other instances of salvation such as that of Noah and Israel were temporary.
 2. This Salvation is eternal. (Hebrews 5:8-9; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 John 2:25)

CONCLUSION.

- A. No man can be saved who rejects. (John 5:40; 12:48)
- B. Nor can anyone who neglects be saved. (Hebrews 2:3)
- C. Just as the Roman soldier's helmet protected his skull and neck from his enemy's weapons and falling debris, the helmet of Salvation offers us protection that will only come if we wear it. Just as the football player wears a helmet or the motorcycle rider will wear a helmet, we must wear the helmet of Salvation if we are to have eternal life. Not to wear it would be stupid. (Isaiah 59:17; Psalm 140:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:8)