## By Grace Are Ye Saved

Folk everywhere are seeking new ways to receive salvation and thus go to Heaven. Some of the ways in which they do this are to attend church; give a little money once in a while; live a good, clean, moral life, or do good works in general. They believe that in themselves they are able to earn their way to Heaven.

Alas, but they are all wrong, for the Word of God says in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

You see my friend, salvation is a free gift from God; we can't do anything to earn it. From the very beginning we were sinners (Ro. 3:23) not even seeking after God (Ro. 3:11), living a depraved life (Ro. 3:12-18). The result of a wicked and sinful life is death (spiritual) (Ro. 6:23), but praise God, salvation is offered to all who seek forgiveness of sin and receive Jesus Christ as Saviour (1 Jn. 1:9).

Even though we did not love God, yet He loved us (1 Jn. 4:10) and sent His Son to die on the Cross (Jn. 3:16) that we, through the shedding of Christ's blood might have remission of sins (He. 9:12,22). God did this for us because He is not willing (that is, does not want) that any should perish (11 Pe. 3:9).

What does all of this mean in terms of God's grace? Simply this, we cannot within ourselves do anything to save ourselves. Grace is the bestowal of unmerited favor by God to us. Someone has said that the word "grace" stands for "God's Riches At Christ's Expense." How True!

Dear one, there is no need to spend eternity in hell. Christ has made full payment for your sins by shedding His precious blood on the Cross of Calvary. To have the forgiveness of sin and receive eternal life through Christ, all you need to do is confess to God that you are a sinner, ask for forgiveness and for Jesus Christ to come into your heart and save you. If you will do this, you will be saved for all eternity (1 Jn. 5:11-13). Then seek out a good independent, fundamental, Bible believing and Bible preaching Baptist church. Attend it regularly that you might be spiritually fed from God's Word to help you grow spiritually strong. Will you this moment receive Christ as your personal Saviour?

--Evangelist Richard A. Ciarrocca

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