

PURIFIED BY FAITH AND SAVED BY GRACE

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 15:9-11

INTRODUCTION

HERE ARE THE KEYSTONES OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. WE ARE PURIFIED BY FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS AND SAVED FROM OUR SINS BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

I. PURIFIED BY FAITH

HEBREWS 9:14 NIV HOW MUCH MORE, THEN, WILL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, WHO THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT OFFERED HIMSELF UNBLEMISHED TO GOD, CLEANSE YOUR CONSCIENCES FROM ACTS THAT LEAD TO DEATH, SO THAT WE MAY SERVE THE LIVING GOD.

1 JOHN 1:9 NIV IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST AND WILL FORGIVE US OUR SINS AND PURIFY US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

- A. BEFORE WE CAN BE ACCEPTED BY GOD, WE MUST BE PURIFIED
- B. THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS THE AGENT OF PURIFICATION
 - 1. IT WASHES AWAY THE STAINS OF SIN
 - 2. IT DESTROYS THE INFECTION OF SIN
 - 3. IT PROVIDES IMMUNITY TO SIN

II. SAVED BY GRACE

EPHESIANS 2:8-9 NIV FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED, THROUGH FAITH AND THIS NOT FROM YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD -- NOT BY WORKS, SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST.

ACTS 15:11 NIV NO! WE BELIEVE IT IS THROUGH THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS THAT WE ARE SAVED, JUST AS THEY ARE.

- A. THE MEANING OF "SAVED"
 - 1. REGENERATED - GIVEN NEW LIFE
 - 2. JUSTIFIED - THE PENALTY OF OUR SINS IS REMOVED

- 3. SANCTIFIED - SET APART FROM SIN AND APART TO GOD
- 4. FELLOWSHIP - PLACED IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
- B. THE WORKING OF GRACE
 - 1. GIVES UNDESERVED FAVOR BEFORE GOD
 - 2. GIVES SUPERNATURAL ABILITY TO LIVE A RIGHTEOUS LIFE