

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

WILL YOU BE SAVED?

Luke 13:23 “And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?”
(Read Luke 13:23-27)

In answer to the man’s question found in verse 23, Jesus responded with warnings to him. He concluded in verses 28-29 with His own question, “O questioner, will you be saved?”

Jesus masterfully leads the questioner with His warnings to reflect upon the fact that “being saved” is not something that happens because of his or any other persons effort or goodness. The door is so narrow, Jesus says, because there is only one way to enter into the house. All encumbrances must be removed. Those passing through this narrow door must be stripped naked and stand before the Lord of the House depending upon Him for entrance, their residency and to be clothed in Christ’s robes of righteousness.

Yet again Jesus is teaching about the necessity of repentance. You, nor anyone else have anything you can offer to the Lord of the house for entrance or residency. As you have sung in the familiar hymn “Rock of Ages,” “Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.”

Your repentance is God’s work by the power of His Spirit through His Law that shows you your sins and drives you to the reality you have nothing you can bring to God for your forgiveness. The Gospel, the Good News of God’s love for you in Christ Jesus, reveals to you that Jesus alone has paid the ransom price to God for your sins by shedding His blood on Calvary’s cross. God’s Word calls you not only to see your sins but to confess them and depend completely upon Him to forgive you because of His undeserved love for you.

Through your baptism your old sinful nature is daily drowned and dies. The Holy Spirit gives you faith in Jesus through which you receive a new life by the power of the Gospel. This activity is repeated daily in your life because your old sinful nature constantly strives to retake control of your life and Jesus, your Savior

defeats it in your behalf. The answer to the man's question is, you will be saved by God's grace through His gift to you of faith in His Son Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Lead each day of my life, O Lord, to my knees in confession of my sins and reception of Your forgiveness for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure; Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Laws' demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.
(LSB 761)