# **Saved! Plain and Simple**

Hebrews 7:25

Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

I love words! I read somewhere that the average person has around 20,000 words in his or her vocabulary. Of course, most folks only use around 2,000 different words in normal conversation. I also discovered that there are around 200,000 English words in common usage today. According to some estimates, the total number of English words is over 3 million, which includes words used exclusively in the medical and technological, and scientific fields! That is a lot of words!

I enjoy words! They are my business! I use words when I preach, when I pray, when I witness, when I fellowship, when I write, etc. I use words in every area of my life. But, it seems to me that of all the words that I use and encounter on a daily basis; the words of the Bible are the most important of all.

If the Holy Spirit inspired this book, and I believe that He did, then I also have to believe that He chose the precise words that He wanted used. Therefore, when I read and study the Bible, it is imperative that I find out what the words in the text mean. To do this, I use dictionaries, Hebrew and Greek lexicons, and other reference materials. I try to see what the word meant in that society and what it means to us today. Then, I take the product of my study and bring it to the church and share it with you. But, it is here, in the church, where the problem of understanding what the Bible says begins.

You see, every person in this room is at a different place in their spiritual journey. Some of you are saved and have been for years. The Bible is an open and blessed book to you. Others are new believers. You are still learning the language of the church and you are still trying to figure out how to understand the Bible. Still others here today have never been saved, and some of the things we say; and some of the things the Bible says make no sense at all to you. In fact, one of the words I have already used a couple of times is a good example. I am referring to the word "saved." One form of that word is even used in our text this morning.

You hear that word a lot around the church. We talk about being saved. We sing about being saved. We preach about being saved. We testify about being saved. We shout about being saved. And, it is fitting that we do this, for salvation is a wonderful thing, if you have it. But, if you don't have it, you might find yourself a little bit confused from time to time when you hear saved people talk about being saved. Well, by the help of the Lord, I want to try and take some of the mystery out of the word "saved" today.

Let me begin with a simple definition. The word "save" means, "to rescue somebody or something: to rescue somebody or something from harm or danger." We use that word often and might speak of "saving someone from drowning"; "saving a person from a burning building"; "saving a someone from certain death"; etc. The English word has the idea of "delivering another person from impending doom."

The Greek word, which is translated "save" in our text, is the word "sozo." It means, "to save, to keep safe and sound, to rescue from danger or destruction; to make well, heal, restore to health." In other words, nothing at all is lost in the translation. When we speak of "getting saved"; "being saved"; etc in the church, we are referring to God's ability to rescue us from death and Hell; and of His power to keep us in that safe and sound condition forever.

With that little bit of information in mind, I want to take a look at this wonderful verse that we have before us today. I want to park on a few of the precious words contained in this verse and preach on the subject: *Saved! Plain And Simple*. We have been honored to have some unsaved people in our services on any given Sunday; and I am sure that there are some here today. I want to be sure that you have the opportunity to hear the simple truths of salvation clearly, and stated in plain English. So, let's park on verse 25 for a few minutes today as we think on the thought *Saved! Plain And Simple*.

#### I. Salvation Is About a Person - He

Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him...

The "He" in this verse is identified in verse 22.

Heb 7:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

His name is "Jesus." The Bible says in our text that "He is able." That means that Jesus alone has the ability to provide salvation. That is the clear message of the New Testament.

Act 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, *even* by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Act 4:11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

Act 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

1Jn 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

1Jn 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Now this message may seem narrow and sound narrow to our modern minds, but salvation will *ONLY* be found in a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ! Why? Because Jesus did what no other man has ever done or will ever do. He lived a sinless life, and then He went to an old rugged cross and died there in agony and shame. When He did, He shed His precious, sinless blood for the sins of all who will trust Him for salvation!

1Pe 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Ladies and gentlemen, listen to me real close here. The church is not the answer. Although it is a fantastic starting place, it is only that a vehicle. There are many who have attended church for years and are no closer to being saved than when they first walked through the doors. The Pastor is not the answer. Justin is not the answer. And I am certainly not the answer. We can't save you, we can only introduce you to the One who can. Only Jesus can rescue you from the danger that threatens your soul. Only Jesus can save! And He is able to do it to the uttermost. Salvation is not only about a person:

#### II. Salvation Is About a Possibility - Is

#### Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him...

Notice the word "is" in this verse. The little verb is a present tense word. It speaks of something that is possible right now. When we speak of salvation, we are not talking about something that was or of something that will be later. We are speaking of something that can happen right now.

The Bible says that "He is able to save." Jesus did not just operate in power during Bible times, but He is still saving souls today. You who wonder and worry about what will happen to you in eternity don't need to wonder or worry anymore. You need to understand that Jesus is able and willing to save your soul today, this very minute.

• That is His call.

2Co 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

• That is His promise.

Joh 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

You do not have to live in your sins for one more minute! You can be free; you can be saved; you can be assured of Heaven today, if you will only trust Jesus!

While salvation is available right now, I am afraid that it will not always be! The Bible tells us that there will come a day when the Lord will speak to your heart no more. His Spirit will not strive with you forever. My advice to you is this: if the Lord is speaking to you about coming to Him, then you need to come and wait no longer. He is able today, and if He is calling, He intends for you to come to Him today. Hear the advice of Isaiah.

Isa 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

We have seen that salvation is about a Person and a Possibility. Next I would like you to see that....

#### III. Salvation Is About a Power — Able

#### Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him...

We are told that "He is able..." That word means, "to have the power to do something." Jesus has the power to do something about your lost condition. He has the power, the ability to save your soul! He is able to do just that!

This word "able" is the Greek word dunamai. It comes from the same word from which we get the English word "dynamite and dynamic." It has the idea of explosive power. Jesus Christ has the power to invade your life and break the chains that hold you bound in your sins. He has the power to affect your eternal freedom here and now. He is able to set you free, John 8:36.

#### Joh 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

That word also has the idea of "competence." In other words, it refers to someone "who knows what he is doing." If my car is acting up and I need a mechanic, I want to take it to someone who is competent to get it fixed. If I have a problem with my body, I want to take it to someone who is competent to get the help I need. I want a surgeon who made an A in surgery; not someone who made a D! But, when it comes to my soul, I want Someone Who is competent, don't you? You see, your soul is far more valuable than your car or even your body. Your soul is the most important and valuable possession you have. The Bible poses the question this way.

Mar 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Mar 8:37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Well, I am glad that I can tell you today that Jesus is more than able; He is more than competent when it comes to saving souls. He can save anybody, anywhere, any time, from any sin.

Joh 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

Joh 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

He has the power to save. He paid the price to save. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross for our sins and rose again from the dead. Jesus can and will save all who come to Him by faith.

### IV. Salvation Is About a Perfection - Uttermost

#### Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost...

Not only does Jesus possess the power to provide salvation, but the Bible says here that He is able to save to the "*uttermost*." This is a precious word! It means, "*Completely, perfectly, and utterly*." When God saves a soul from sin, He does it right; He does it perfectly; He does it completely; and He does it utterly.

What does this mean for you? I am glad you asked! If you are saved to the uttermost, here is a little of what that means for you.

1. <u>You are saved completely from your sins.</u> All your sins, every single one, have been washed away through the precious blood of Jesus.

Psa 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Isa 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul *delivered it* from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

Isa 43:25 I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

2. You are saved from the power of your sins.

Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Rom 6:7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Rom 6:8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

Rom 6:9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Rom 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Rom 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rom 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Rom 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

These verses tell us plainly that we died with Jesus and have been raised to a new life in Him. As a result, He has forever broken the bondage of our sins and set us free from their power.

3. <u>You are saved forever from your sins.</u> Some people read this verse and think that the word "uttermost" means that Jesus can save anyone. Well, He can; but that is not the emphasis of that word. It has the idea that Jesus has the ability "to save us to the end." In other words, when Jesus saves a soul, He does it completely and He does it forever.

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Joh 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1Pe 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

1Pe 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Salvation is a complete, perfect, and forever work! Jesus is able to save your soul, and when He does, He is able to keep you saved! That encourages me! I mess up a lot in life, but even I cannot mess up salvation! It is complete in Jesus and it is mine forever! Salvation will not wear out and it will not wear off. Those who are saved today will be saved forever!

## V. Salvation Is About a Potential - Them

Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him,

Here is the bittersweet part of this verse. We are told that this perfect, complete and utter salvation can become a reality, but only for "them ... that come unto God by Him." You see, salvation is not for

everyone. There are some people who cannot and who will not be saved! That may surprise you, but it is true! Salvation is only for those who will come to Jesus and call on Him by faith.

Rom 10:8 But what saith it? The word is night hee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Rom 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Rom 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Jesus died on the cross to make a way of salvation possible for all who will come to Him by faith. 1Jn 2:2 tells us that He is the propitiation, or atoning sacrifice for not only our sins, but also for the sins of the whole world. There is also an open invitation to come to Him.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

We have also seen in Scripture this morning that He won't turn anyone away. That is a tremendous blessing! But it is also the crux of a great problem! You see, there are many who hear the message of the cross, the message of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the message of the Gospel of grace and believe it. These people are immediately, completely, perfectly, utterly and forever saved from their sins.

However, there are many, many more that hear this same message and repeatedly turn a deaf ear to it. They harden their hearts to the call of Jesus and walk away from Him and His promises. These people will never be saved, unless they "come unto God by Him." I remind you that Jesus is the only way to God. He is the only hope of salvation you have. If you reject Him, you have no other alternatives. You have nothing to look forward to but an eternity in Hell. To reject Jesus is to walk away from the only One Who can save your soul. Finally, I want you to see this morning that…

#### VI. Salvation Is About a Promise - Liveth

Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

One of the primary reasons that Jesus is able to save so completely, perfectly, and utterly is because He is alive, in Heaven today. As we know from the Bible, Jesus died on the cross, but He also rose from the dead.

1Co 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

1Co 15:3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

1Co 15:4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

1Co 15:5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

1Co 15:6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

1Co 15:7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

1Co 15:8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

1Co 15:11 Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed.

After that, Jesus ascended back to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. He is present in Heaven today and He is there to make "intercession" for us.

He is our High Priest. This first part of chapter 7 is about the superiority of Jesus to earthly high priests. All other priests die and their ministry ends forever. Jesus died and His ministry began! He rose from the dead and now He prays for us in the very presence of God.

# 1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

When we fail as believers, and we often do, He is there to plead our case and say, "Put that on my account". His presence in Heaven is our guarantee of eternal life! Jesus is there as the proof that sin had been conquered and that way has been opened into God's presence. He is the Door; and all who enter through Him have His presence in Heaven as their promise, as their hope, as their anchor.

I challenge you to name any other religious figure that can make that claim. Every other founder of every other major religion has a grave where their followers can go to mourn their deaths. Only Christians have an empty tomb! Our Leader, the Author and Finisher of our faith, rose from the dead, ascended back to Heaven, and is there today as our representative and the guarantee that we will be there one day as well. Look at what Jesus promised.

Joh 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Joh 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

What a promise! What a guarantee!

Saved! What a glorious, wonderful word! The more I learn about that word and what it promises, the more I love it! I am glad that I can say, without reservation, "I am saved!" I praise the Lord that I know what salvation is all about. I praise the Lord that Jesus is my Savior!

What about you? Can you say, "I know for sure that I am saved," today? Have you ever come to a point where you understood the gospel and placed your trust in Jesus Christ to save you from your sins? If you have, then all that I have talked about today, and more, is yours through Him! But, if you haven't, I challenge you to delay no longer. If the Lord Jesus has shown you that you are not saved today and you know that He is calling you to come to Him; then I beg you to let us help you with this. We would love to sit down with you at a time and place of your choosing, and introduce you to Jesus. Please ask us about those Basic Bible Truth classes before you leave today.