

INTRODUCTION

In explaining why the woman is not permitted to be the church's teacher, the apostle noted from history that the woman had been deceived or beguiled by the devil, and so had been in transgression; had broken God's law; had become a transgressor, a lawbreaker, a sinner.

The Bible tells us that when Eve, the first woman sinned, God pronounced upon her multiplied sorrows and pains in childbearing. She also was cast out of the Garden of Eden.

As we study this particular place in the Bible, you dear girls and women are made to consider yourselves as connected to Eve in that transgression, and in the painful effects of it. You yourselves have a share in that sin. You feel in your own heart and your own body the greatly multiplied pains and sorrows that God declared on that awful day so long ago.

If this question has not already formed in your mind, think about it now: If I have been deceived by the serpent and transgressed God's law; if I have sinned, and the penalty for sin is death; if it is because of the woman that the man first sinned, and now our whole race is sinful; if I already suffer the sorrow and pain that God pronounced because of my transgression; what is going to happen to me when I die? If I am already suffering the effects of my sin during this life, what awaits me after death?

The Bible tells us many ways that transgressors shall be punished by God. When sinners die, their souls go immediately to torment in the flames. Then will come the great day of judgment. On that day, transgressors will stand before the judgment seat of God to be sentenced to punishment in the lake of fire forever. Can the woman, already bearing in her own body the painful evidence of her first transgression, expect to escape the wrath of God that is coming?

The last verse in 1 Timothy chapter 2 answers that question for the woman who believes in Jesus Christ. In answering that question for the woman, today's verse also answers similar questions for men. Hear the good news for the woman who trust herself to Jesus Christ:

She shall be saved!

TEXT

1 Timothy 2:14-15 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding, she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity [love] and holiness with sobriety.

BODY

This statement is somewhat complex. To get a firm hold on the meaning of it, we're going to set aside some of the parts of it, to get first at the essence of the promise being made. Then we'll put the other parts back on one at a time, until we see what the whole statement means.

I. You Shall Be Saved If You Believe

A. You see in our verse the word "faith"

1. but if you want to say it as a verb, you have to switch to "believe"
2. Remember that our English words "believe," and "faith" in Greek are forms of the same word;
 - a) believe and belief are from the Old English words, of northern European origin
 - b) faith is from the French, from Latin origin in the word *fide*
3. So when we say "Believe" or when we say, "faith," those are not two different things; they are just two different English words for the same thing

B. Of course meaning to believe in Jesus Christ

1. faith in the Lord Jesus; faith in Christ Jesus
 - a) Ephesians 1:15-16 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, (16) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:
 - b) Colossians 1:3-4 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, (4) since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;
2. faith in Jesus Christ according to what He preached, and what He preaches still, through those who preach in His name:
 - a) that Jesus Christ has died the death that sinful men deserve, on the cross; that He has been buried; and that He has risen again from the dead
 - b) that those who repent are forgiven their sins in Him
 - c) that those who have faith in Him will have eternal life

You shall be saved if you believe

II. You Shall Be Saved If You Continue in Faith

- A. To believe is not something done once, but something that starts at a certain point in time, and continues forever
- B. The Bible describes people who are said to have believed
 1. but they only followed Jesus for a while, until He said things they did not like to hear; then they turned back and followed Him no more
 2. the Lord Jesus described them as seeds that grow up quickly, but have no root, and so wilt as quickly as they sprang up
- C. The precious promise of salvation, or being saved, is for those who continue believing; who continue in faith

You shall be saved if you believe

You shall be saved if you continue in faith

- III. You Shall Be Saved If You Continue in Faith That Shows Itself True Saving Faith
- A. Faith that does not produce a changed life is not the kind of faith that saves
 - B. To put it another way: faith that is not accompanied by repentance is not true saving faith
 - C. See a summary here of what is produced in a person who has true saving faith; who has faith accompanied by repentance
 - 1. love / charity
 - a) Ephesians 1:15-16 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, (16) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:
 - b) Colossians 1:3-4 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, (4) since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;
 - 2. holiness
 - a) G38 *hagiasmos*
 - b) 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 For this is the will of God, even your **sanctification**, that ye should abstain from fornication: (4) That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in **sanctification** and honour; (5) Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: (6) That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. (7) For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto **holiness**.
 - 3. sobriety / self-control / modestie
 - a) this is the same word we studied together for two weeks a while back; modestie or sobriety or self-control; the Greek *sofrosune*
 - b) *Sofrosune* or sobriety/self-control/modestie is the grace of embracing the truth of the bible, and rejecting the lusts of your flesh, exercising control over yourself so that you consistently do what is appropriate and moderate, not going too far in anything.
 - 4. the four things listed here are sometimes analyzed in this way
 - a) toward God: faith
 - b) toward other people: love
 - c) toward sin: holiness
 - d) toward yourself: self-control

You shall be saved if you believe

You shall be saved if you continue in faith

You shall be saved if you continue in faith that shows itself true saving faith

IV. You Shall Be Saved Even Through the Sorrows of This Life If You Continue in Faith

A. In the case of men and boys, you will be saved even through the toilsome, sweaty labor of earning your living

1. by concentrating all your effort on something, you can barely get one thing accomplished;
 - a) you need to clear space and get your garden planted; you need to get your house built, or fixed up; you need to get your office or workshop set up
 - b) everything you do is much more difficult than you thought, costs much more money than you estimated, and takes much longer than you thought to complete
 - c) when you finally are finished, what you have produced is not as good as what you had imagined and hoped for
2. meanwhile, 10 or 100 other things you need to do are left undone, all the while what was accomplished before is crumbling away or growing up with weeds and thorns and poison ivy
3. everything you have keeps breaking down; if you use something, it breaks from use; if you don't use something, it breaks from neglect
4. any time you do anything, you can't seem to escape being hurt in the process
 - a) you hammer your thumb, or cut or scrape yourself; if you finish something with nothing worse than a few nicks and a couple bruises, you are glad!
 - b) sometime while you're still young, you hurt your back or sprain a knee, and it never really heals right; so then when you exert your strength to accomplish something, you hurt and ache
5. if your job is an active, physical job, before you know it you have injured yourself somehow, and you have to do your job in pain, and you aren't sure you can keep doing it long enough to retire
6. if your job is a sedentary, sitting in the chair of an office or a vehicle, before you know it you have grown fat...
7. all the while, you remember that your dad or your grandfather or your uncle, while he was struggling to make his living, was stricken down by a heart attack or an injury or a stroke or cancer; and in the back of your mind all the time is the nagging concern: When will my time come, and will I be able to raise up my children and see my grandchildren before my body gives up on me; how will my wife be provided for if something happens to me?
8. men and boys, hear from God our Savior, by the Lord Jesus Christ: If you believe, you will be saved even in all the painful toil of this life!

B. In the case of women and girls, you will be saved even in and through childbearing if you continue in faith

1. please dismiss an false idea that might occur to us as we read this: this is not a promise that Christian women will not die in childbirth
 - a) not “she will be saved from death in childbirth” or “she will be saved from dying through childbirth”
2. what this means is
 - a) “even in the painful process of childbearing, she will be saved from the wrath of God to come” or
 - b) “despite the multiplied sorrows and pains she is in during childbearing, she shall be saved”
 - c) e.g. as in 1 Cor 3:15 a person is brought safely out of a house fire; that person’s worldly possessions were burned up, but he was saved in the fire
 - d) e.g. as in 1 Peter 3:20 Noah and his family were saved in the flood that destroyed the whole world; they were brought safely through the flood; everything else was destroyed, but they were saved
3. think how it goes with a women in this life
 - a) a girl of tender years first feels the cramping pain of her amazing, God-given reproductive system coming to life; she will feel this pain every month for thirty years
 - b) as she grows to womanhood, her heart aches, longing for the day when she will be loved by a good husband, and will have her own babies to nurture
 - c) but then the babies never come
 - (1) either she never gets married, and so never has the opportunity to bear children
 - (2) or she gets married and finds something is wrong with her body, or her husband’s body, so that they cannot have children together
 - (3) or she gets pregnant, but every pregnancy ends in ruin, as the baby miscarries or is stillborn
 - d) so, her sorrow grows and grows as she ages and does not have the joy of children; and yet, as if in cruel mockery of her sorrow, the cramping pains in her body come every month just the same
 - e) precious, priceless woman, hear the word of the Lord: The woman was deceived by the devil and was in transgression, and brought upon herself multiplied sorrows regarding childbearing; but if she continues in faith, she shall be saved by Jesus Christ, even through all the sorrows, into the joy of eternal life with Him

4. or think how it goes with another woman in this life
 - a) God blesses her with marriage
 - b) her amazing youthful body is fruitful with children
 - c) but her body is beset with nausea; her legs and feet swell; her back aches; labor and deliver are painful; nursing is difficult; sometimes painful infection sets in, making even that joy a misery; post-partum depression descends, robbing her of the enjoyment of her family;
 - d) before long, her baby's pitiful cries for his Mother to give him milk become angry screams for her give him whatever he demands; he will not obey her sweet entreaties, but instead throws himself into a tantrum, defying her with all his strength; only by paddling her precious little one can she even get him to be civil toward the one who has given him life; as he grows older, he may tell her lies, may steal from her; he may even refuse to believe in the very God who has created them both; he is ungrateful, taking for granted all her kindness toward him; as he grows older, rejecting all her advice, he pursues the things of the world, to gratify the desires of his flesh
 - e) so, what was at first a bundle of joy in her arms becomes a source of deepest sorrow; there she is, having spent her body's youthful strength, with nothing to show for it but tears that threaten to overwhelm her heart;
 - f) but, sorrowing woman, loaded down with feelings of guilt and grief, hear the word of the Lord: The woman was deceived by the devil and was in transgression, and brought upon herself the multiplied sorrows regarding childbearing; but Jesus Christ has died on the cross; He has taken all your guilt upon Himself! if you believe in Him, trust yourself to Him, have faith in Him, even through the deepest flood of sorrows in childbearing, you shall be saved from the flood in the ark of Jesus Christ
5. no matter the pain that courses through your body as your amazing reproductive system experiences the effects of sin, God's promise to you in Christ Jesus is that you shall be saved
6. no matter the sorrows that break your heart because of the effects of sin, the gospel of God's grace for you is, "she shall be saved!"

You shall be saved if you believe

You shall be saved if you continue in faith

You shall be saved if you continue in faith that shows itself true saving faith

You shall be saved even through the sorrows of this life if you continue in faith

V. You Shall Be Saved By the Savior the Woman Has Borne

- A. God created woman to fill the earth with life by bearing children; Eve was to be the mother of all living
- B. but because of sin, even as the woman fills the earth with life, she also fills it with suffering and death
- C. yet even before God pronounced Eve's greatly increased sorrow and pain in childbearing, He made the first promise of the Gospel: that the seed of woman would bruise or crush the head of the serpent!
- D. so, in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman! the Lord Jesus Christ was born to a virgin, Mary
- E. And indeed Jesus Christ, when He died for our sins on the cross, when He was buried, and when He rose again to life on the first day of the week, crushed the serpent's head! Sin and death and the grave now have no power over those who are in Christ Jesus through faith.

CONCLUSION

You shall be saved if you believe

You shall be saved if you continue in faith

You shall be saved if you continue in faith that shows itself true saving faith

You shall be saved even through the sorrows of this life if you continue in faith

You shall be saved by the savior the woman has borne

Your sin committed in Eve was of terrible consequence.

-it led Adam into sin; and in Adam's sin our whole race became sinners subject to death

-by God's pronouncement, Eve's sin brought upon all women multiplied sorrow and pain in bringing forth children

I know you feel the weight of those terrible consequences, and your labor painfully with sorrow all your life. I have seen my own dear wife's labor and pain and tears. Although we men cannot feel what you feel, we see how it affects you. For our part, we feel every day the weight of the consequences of our own sin in Adam.

But for every person, whether man or boy, woman or girl, hear the promise of the gospel of Jesus Christ:

Despite all our transgression, and through all the troubles of this life, all who trust in Jesus Christ, continuing in that faith, showing the truth of that faith in love, holiness, and sobriety, shall be saved!

Jeremiah - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Luke 1:26-50

Roel - Scripture Reading - Genesis 3:13-21

Thad - Congregational Prayer

Rita - Prelude (Please choose something)

Rita - Trinity 150 "All My Heart This Night Rejoices"

Allison - Trinity 712 "I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Allison - Trinity 415 "God, Be Merciful to Me"

Gen 3:16

Trapp

And in sorrow shalt thou bring up, after the birth.

Barnes:

This sorrow seems to extend to all the mother's pains and anxieties concerning her offspring.

Ephesians 1:15-16 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, (16) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

Colossians 1:3-4 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, (4) since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

holiness G38 *hagiasmos*

sobriety / self-control G4997 *sophrosune*

This precious promise is true of any person!

If you believe in God through Jesus Christ, and repent, turning away from hatred, corruption, and wantonness, you will be saved!

Men and boys, you will be saved if you continue in faith, love, holiness, and sobriety.

Women and girls, you will be saved if you continue in faith, love, holiness, and sobriety.

Sometimes in the Bible this is stated even more simply:

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved!” Acts 16:51

The object of that belief, faith, trust, is Jesus Christ.

When God our Savior declares the good news of salvation, He does so

- sometimes in terms of faith, believing, trusting, coming
- sometimes in terms of repentance, and the good works that a repentant person does
- sometimes in both terms together

Faith and repentance are two graces

- distinct
- together

Faith and repentance are salvific, are effectual
Other things mentioned with them are not salvific.

True saving faith continues to the end
True saving faith is alive, producing good works

Galatians 4:4 God sent forth His Son, made of a woman

See how even in the curse God pronounced upon the serpent, there is a promise to the woman, that her Seed would crush the serpent's head.

GEN Notwithstanding, through bearing of children she shall be saved if they continue in faith, and love, and holiness with modesty.

KJV Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

NKJV Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

ESV Yet she will be saved through childbearing--if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.