

WORSHIP AT HOME

Bondage | Deliverance | Healing

Salvation Focuses on Renewing Relationships Three Ways

Bondage

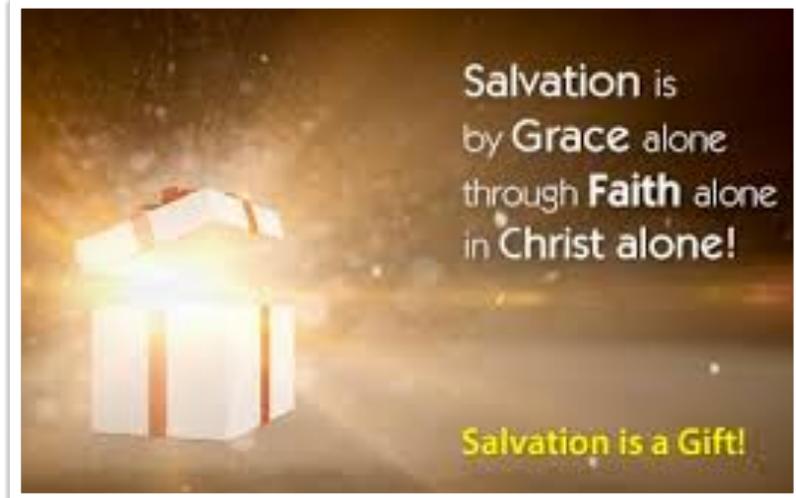
Bondage is the condition of being someone's property and having to work for them.

Deliverance

Deliverance is rescue from imprisonment, danger, or evil.

Healing

If you **heal** something such as a rift or a wound, or if it **heals**, the situation is put right so that people are friendly or happy again.



Prelude

While we were yet sinners Christ suffered all sinfulness, was killed, and rose to Life. Mercy is God's Prelude to Grace.

Entrance of the Light

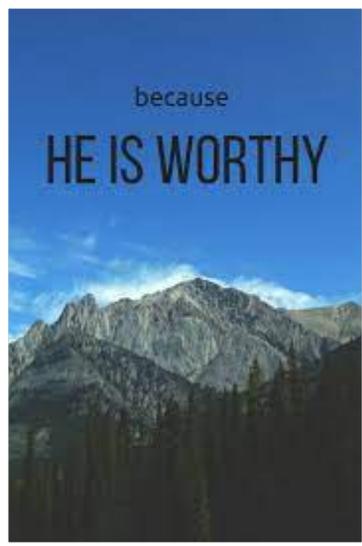
Sin separates us from God's mercy, grace, and love. Sin is like darkness. God's Love is Light that shines in the Darkness of Sin.

Saints are sinners who trust God with their darkest desires, evil actions, and hostile thoughts.

Special Music

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a fore taste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His Blood.

Ar



I am unworthy of God's Love

Dualism focuses on either this or that. It judges right from wrong. On the Cross Jesus holds opposites together as one.

On the Cross Jesus confesses feeling forsaken by God. How many times have we heard some say, "I am unworthy of God's love?"

Notice how the confession of unworthiness is bound to God's Love. God's Love remains. Faith trusts God's Love with our unworthiness.

The next time you feel or think you are unworthy of God' Love listen to Jesus prayer for you. "Father, forgive _____ he or she doesn't know what they are doing. Faith trust that God knows what God is doing. Faith means we place our unworthy spirit into God's hands.

Father, the next time I hear some say, "I am unworthy of God's Love remind me to say, God hears your confession. What would its take for you to commit your unworthy spirit into the hands of Holy God?

Welcome

Easter People, why do we rejoice?

We rejoice because the Light of Salvation has eclipsed the darkness of sin and death.

Easter People, to whom do we Listen?

We listen for the Holy Spirit calling us to confession. We confess our temptation to live in the bondage of the World's power, control, and greed. We confess our temptation to obey Laws and Rituals that hold us in shame, guilt, blame, and fear.

Easter People, who do we Obey?

We obey Christ Jesus. His mercy commands us to deny the power of sin. His Grace frees us to abide in God's Presence. His Love heals our hearts, restores our souls, and gives us the same mind that was in Christ even as he suffered all sin.



Morning Prayer

God, in our fear and trembling remind us to call you Father.

Father, when we say “I am unworthy of God’s Love”, remind us that your Holy Spirit leads us to confess our temptation to hide in the fear of shame, guilt, and blame.

Holy Spirit, once we confess our unworthiness remind us that you deliver us from evil to be healed by Christ Jesus.

Jesus, Lord of Life, remind us to deny our unworthy self. Teach us to take up our cross of shame, guilt, and blame and carry it in the power of your mercy.

Father, Holy Spirit, and Son thank you for delivering us from fear and trembling to be healed in Your Gracious Presence.

The Lord’s Prayer

Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
On the third day he rose from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, and now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Reading of Scripture: Philippians 2

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.



Instrumental Meditation

Message: Work Out Your Salvation

Paul encourages the Saints saying, “Work out your salvation with fear and trembling.” He masterfully opened this chapter with a string of rhetorical questions regarding the gift of being saved by grace, through faith in Christ alone. If there is an encouragement, comfort, sharing of the Holy Spirit, and Love let us be of the same mind. I contend the mind of which he speaks is the mind of Christ Jesus. Jesus suffered all our sins through faith in God’s Mercy. Jesus is killed by World and Religious leaders who use their power to control people by forcing them into bondage. He commits His Spirit to God trusting that God’s Grace is greater than sin.

Sadly, little has changed in regards to Salvation History. In the Old Testament, at the first sign of a trial God’s people longed to return to Egypt and their taskmasters. In the New Testament when Easter People face trials they return to the Law of Moses. What is it about the human heart and mind that prefers justice based on retribution over and above God’s merciful justice that delivers us from sin to heal us with unconditional love?

The Old Testament salvation story repeats itself over and over. The chosen children of God celebrate peace and prosperity, which signifies their understanding of God’s blessings. Peace and prosperity are soon blinded by their desire to be like other nations, who have mortal Kings, and hand carved idols they worship as gods. God yearns for God’s children with jealousy that cleanses their heart, soul, and

mind with unquenchable fire. When God turns up the heat of the Holy Spirit to deliver us from temptation we long for Egypt and Legalism.

The point is that Salvation History is marked by seasons. Wesley, Luther, and Calvin led the Church into a season of relative peace and prosperity of being God's children. Today, the Church is in a battle. On one side Moses figures are determined to set the captives free from Egyptian taskmasters. On the other side Moses figures are determined to keep us at the base of Mount Sinai in fear and trembling of violating a Law. Notice that both sides follow Moses.

It is the story of Adam and Eve, Cain and Able, Esau and Jacob, Saul the Pharisees and Paul the Apostle. When shall we repent and seek to have the same mind that was in Jesus?

Friends, God has given us the same mind that was Christ Jesus, not Moses! While Jesus suffered our sin His mind was set on God's mercy. While the Civil and Religious Leaders killed him, Jesus mind was set on committing his spirit into the hands of God. While Jesus rested in the tomb on the Sabbath, He waited on God to finish the work of the New Covenant.

Repentance means that Saints work out their salvation in fear and trembling. Jesus didn't make someone else carry his cross, suffer the shame, guilt, and blame. In His suffering He cried My God why have you forsaken me. Do we not all face such trials? Do we not fear and tremble? Do we not feel forsaken? Isn't this fear and trembling a clear sign of being nailed to the cross with Christ in His suffering?

The Son of God confessed his fear with trembling. My God, My God why...is always the human confession. Jesus didn't cry, Your God, or Their God, or even Our God. He cried My God. He worked out salvation with God. The one who cried My God why, denied the power of sin. He prayed, Father, forgive them... He denied the power of death. He prayed, into your hands I commit my spirit.

While the Civil Authorities and Religious leaders used their laws to bind people in fear and trembling, Jesus worked out Salvation before their very eyes. He practiced faith in God while people said you who saved others come down off the cross and save yourself.

So there it is. I have said it. The Church is trying to save itself. The people who crucified Jesus knew God. They lacked faith in God. Faith in God through Jesus Christ follows Jesus' way. Saints deny self the power of sin. Saints work out their salvation in fear and trembling of their taskmasters. Saints take up their cross. The cross is the way of repentance. Saints cry My God why have you forsaken me. Saints pray for those who persecute just as Jesus prayed "Father, forgive them they do not know what they are doing" so the Holy Spirit teaches us to pray. Saints give witness to their faith in the power of God alone as they die to self and rise in Christ saying, Father, into you hands I commit my spirit.

Salvation is God's gift to humanity. The gift was given through His One Son. Just as it was given, it must be received. This is why Paul says, "work out your salvation in fear and trembling." Friends, sin is personal. Sin separates individuals from God. In the same way, Salvation is personal. Paul is saying that individually we are each responsible for working out our salvation one on one with God.

If there is an encouragement, comfort, sharing of the Holy Spirit, and Love let us be of the same mind. In other words, please do not think like me and I will not think like you. Let us each see one another through the mind of Jesus as he suffered, died, and rose to Life. Amen

Tithes and Offerings

Special Music

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long.

Postlude

Saints are sinners who deny unworthy self, work out their salvation in fear and trembling, eat with sinners, share the Good News that God's mercy delivers us from sin. Having the same mind that was in Christ Jesus Saints abide in God's Grace. Grace is the place our hearts, souls, and minds are healed in God's unconditional love.