

**“What Time is It?” – Pt. 1
Romans 13:11**

Big Idea – It is time to get serious about things that matter most.

1. The time of salvation

2 Corinthians 6:2 “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

What do we mean by “salvation?” a synonym is “deliverance from something or someone”

In the NT salvation is regarded almost exclusively as being delivered from the power and dominion of sin.

Jesus Christ is the author (see Matthew 1:21; Acts 4:12; Hebrews 2:10; Hebrews 5:9). It is freely offered to all men but is conditioned upon repentance and faith in Christ (see John 3:16; Hebrews 2:3).

Salvation proceeds from the love of God, is based upon the atonement wrought by Christ, is realized in forgiveness, regeneration, and sanctification, and culminates in the resurrection and glorification of all true believers.” (New Unger's Bible Dictionary)

Who needs salvation from sin, its power and penalty? Everyone who is a sinner.

Romans 3:10 “As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous— not even one.

11 No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God.

12 All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.”

17 They don't know where to find peace.”

18 “They have no fear of God at all.”

19 The law's purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God.

20 For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

21 But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law,

22 We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. This is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

24 Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

25 For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past,

26 for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

27 Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith.

28 So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Why does God say that “now” is the day of salvation?

Because at least 3 things could prevent you from being saved if you don’t do it now.

1. You could die – Hebrews 9:27

2. God could remove His Holy Spirit from convicting you

Genesis 6:3 God said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

John 6:44 "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

3. The Rapture could occur – Jesus Christ could come back.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 "Don't be fooled by what they say. For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction.

4 He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God.

5 Don't you remember that I told you about all this when I was with you?

6 And you know what is holding him back, for he can be revealed only when his time comes.

7 For this lawlessness is already at work secretly, and it will remain secret until the one who is holding it back steps out of the way.

8 Then the man of lawlessness will be revealed, but the Lord Jesus will kill him with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by the splendor of his coming.

9 This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles.

10 He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them.

11 for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

2. Time to “let go and let God” – believe and accept that God is in control

Proverbs 3:5 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

7 Don’t be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil.”

Psalms 55:22 “Give your worries to the LORD, and he will take care of you. He will never let good people down.”

Isaiah 40:28 “Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary.

29 He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

30 Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion.

31 But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

Isaiah 46:9 “Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me.

10 Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.”

3. Time to please God not people

2 Corinthians 5:8 “We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Galatians 1:9 “I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.

10 Obviously, I’m not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ’s servant.”

4. Time to draw near to God

James 4:6 “But God gives us even more grace, as the Scripture says, “God is against the proud, but he gives grace to the humble.”

7 So give yourselves completely to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run from you.

8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. You sinners, clean sin out of your lives. You who are trying to follow God and the world at the same time, make your thinking pure.”

Lamentations 3:25 “The LORD is good to those who hope in him, to those who seek him.”

Isaiah 55:6 “Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.”

5. Time to wake up

Romans 13:11 “Do this because we live in an important time. It is now time for you to wake up from your sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

12 The “night“ is almost finished, and the “day“ is almost here. So we should stop doing things that belong to darkness and take up the weapons used for fighting in the light.

13 Let us live in a right way, like people who belong to the day. We should not have wild parties or get drunk. There should be no sexual sins of any kind, no fighting or jealousy.

14 But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self.”

Ephesians 5:14 “...and everything that is made easy to see can become light. This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper! Rise from death, and Christ will shine on you.“

15 So be very careful how you live. Do not live like those who are not wise, but live wisely.

16 Use every chance you have for doing good, because these are evil times.