



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

SAVED AND CALLED! – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9

COLORADO

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Timothy must have been so encouraged by Paul's opening words of affirmation and affections for him. Now Paul calls on Timothy to keep the faith with a courageous, unapologetic and obedient witness for Jesus Christ no matter what the cost or consequence. Preach without compromise, teach without hesitation, exhort without fear of reprisal from people. It is this attitude which is indispensable for effective ministry. Do not shrink back from fulfilling your ministry in spite of what it may cost. Do not be ashamed, even if people deride, ridicule or put you in prison for preaching Jesus Christ. "Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner..."

I. SAVED AND CALLED!—2 TIMOTHY 1:9

2 Timothy 1:8-9, "Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner; but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, (9) who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity."

The inevitable cost of godly living will be suffering and Paul counted that a privilege rather than a sacrifice. And because of God's provision, Paul calls on Timothy to join him in being willing to suffer for the proclamation of the gospel because it is the only good news that can save a person from sin. And now Paul will remind Timothy of what the gospel is in the next few verses. Has Timothy forgotten? Of course not but being reminded of the truth regarding our great salvation will motivate us to thankfulness and then faithfulness. What follows will be a courageous witness and a life lived for Jesus Christ. Paul understood his duty and responsibility to the gospel as a result of his salvation and writes to exhort Timothy and all believers to the same.

A. "WHO HAS SAVED US"—2 TIMOTHY 1:9A

Paul begins by reminding Timothy that God is our Savior and no one else. Salvation was not my idea, it is God's gracious plan and He initiates it. It is all God. The gospel begins with Jesus Christ and continues in Christ. It is all about Christ and not based on anything I have done.

"saved" Greek *sozo* to deliver, preserve safe from danger, loss, destruction, the verb involves the preservation of life, rescue from peril and protect from spiritual death.

God has saved us from eternal death, sin and the punishment of eternal misery in hell through Jesus Christ's finished work on the cross. Salvation can be found only in Jesus Christ; by His grace extended to us and through faith in Jesus Christ alone. (Ephesians

2:8-9) We are sinners and need to be saved but there is nothing we can do to earn that salvation. Jesus Christ, Who is God saved us from sin, death and hell through faith in His finished work on the cross making us children of God and heirs of heaven. Scripture is the record of Jesus Christ given to us that we might believe in Him and that by believing may have life. (John 20:31) Through God we have forgiveness of our sins, we are justified as though righteous before God and set free to obey and follow Him. We are set free from the penalty of sin and empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in the believer's life. We have been rescued from sin and Satan, from eternal death and hell. In every way, God is my Savior: in the past providing me with salvation, in the present as I live each day and in the future when God completes His work in me in glory. (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28-30) It is God Who has saved us and no one else. Salvation can be found in no one else as Acts 4:12 says, "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." The writer Luke refers to Jesus Christ here reminding us that we are all in need of saving, we must be saved and only through Christ can we be saved.

B. "AND CALLED WITH A HOLY CALLING – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9B

The God Who has saved us has also called us to a holy calling. Paul reminds Timothy that he is called. Our salvation is not something we have dreamed up on our own but rather an act of God. As believers, we have a divine call from God. We are set apart by God for His glory forever! In the Greek, the word "called" means to be appointed, to invite, to welcome. Paul encourages Timothy by reminding him of his calling; that God Himself had appointed him, invited him and welcomed him as His child. And from Romans 8:28-30 we are reminded that God from eternity past called, and everyone who is called is justified and glorified. No one can break that pattern. In Scripture we find that God unfolds the whole idea of calling in beautiful terms. This is what God says about our calling as a believer in Jesus Christ:

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:9- You are called to fellowship with the Son
- ❖ 1 Peter 3:9- You are called to inherit a blessing.
- ❖ Galatians 5:13- You are called to freedom.
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 7:15- You are called to peace.
- ❖ 1 Peter 1:15-16- You are called to holiness.
- ❖ Ephesians 4:1- You are called to a worthy walk. (of Who?)
- ❖ Ephesians 4:4- You are called to one hope.
- ❖ 1 Timothy 6:12- You are called to eternal life.

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS, GOVERNOR & SPOUSES: TUESDAY AT 7:15AM, CAPITOL BASEMENT, ROOM 0109

STAFF, LOBBYISTS, JOURNALISTS & SERGEANTS: TUESDAYS AT NOON, CAPITOL BASEMENT, ROOM 0109

Colorado

SAVED AND CALLED! – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9

Paul reminds Timothy and every believer in Jesus Christ that we have been invited by God Himself, welcomed into a relationship with Him and set apart for Him. This is a holy calling...1 Peter 1:15-16. This is a high calling...Philippians 3:14. This is a heavenly calling...Hebrews 3:11. Paul is reminding all who have been saved that we have been called to holy living. (1 John 3:2) So the purpose of our salvation would be that our life results in obedience to Christ and holiness to God. We no longer live for ourselves but rather for the God Who has called us. Holiness then is the effect of that calling in our lives as Philippians 1:6 makes clear.

We can be assured about the security of our calling from God for Paul says in 2 Thessalonians 5:24, *“Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.”* And one last truth critical to our calling can be found in Romans 11:29 where Paul writes, *“for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.”* This means that God will never change His mind about our calling. There is nothing I could ever do that would ever cause God to change his mind about His call of me!

C. “NOT ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9C

2 Timothy 1:9, “who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.”

Just as Ephesians reminds us that we have not been saved because of our works, Romans 11:9 reminds us that our calling is not of works but of the sovereign grace of God. Our works, performance, our actions are a result of our salvation and not a means of our salvation. We are called not according to human merit in any way but only by the grace of God.

D. “ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE AND GRACE” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9

God has called us to His purpose, resolve and design.

“purpose” Greek means determination, plan or will that involves purpose, resolve and design with intent, desire or will with the power to execute that will.

God has saved us and called us to His Divine purpose executing His will through His Divine grace. Grace is the basis for my salvation and grace is the basis for God’s sustaining work in my life. God chose us, called us and keeps us in accordance with His eternal purpose for us that will ultimately lead to eternity with Him. Ephesians 3:11 reminds us. We have been called according to His purpose and not ours. And we have been called in accordance with His boundless grace to fulfill that purpose.

E. “GRANTED IN CHRIST JESUS” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9E

Only through Jesus Christ does this grace, undeserved kindness from above come. (Titus 3:5) God’s Divine purpose and grace comes to us through Jesus Christ. And this divine grace and purpose, to which believers are called to, didn’t just happen. No, Paul writes here that this was *“from all eternity”*, meaning before times eternal, or before time began. Though we may not understand it, grace was given to us in Christ before the beginning of time. Ephesians 1:4-5 reminds me that before the world was ever created or I was ever conceived, I was in the heart and plan of the sovereign God. All believers are a part of God’s divine plan, His divine purpose and unmerited favor is from eternity past to eternity future.

Timothy needed to be reminded of God’s saving purpose for him and that God had been at work before the world began. It wasn’t because Timothy earned a place in God’s kingdom purpose; no it was all undeserved, unearned kindness from above. And it is the availability and sufficiency of God’s grace that can strengthen and enable weak and wavering believers to a resolved, courageous and unapologetic witness for Christ. The ability to suffer and live godly is rooted in God’s gracious provision of His sovereign grace granted in Jesus Christ. And it is to this end that Paul reminds Timothy and every believer, of the truth of God’s calling and purpose.

F. WHAT ABOUT YOU? – 2 TIMOTHY 1:9

It is God Who saves. Salvation is found in no one else but Jesus Christ. Is Jesus Christ alone your Savior? Have you recognized you are a sinner and repented before God, turning to Christ alone for salvation? It is a matter of life and death for all eternity. If you haven’t, do so now.

As a believer in Jesus Christ, you have a divine call from God Himself. He has welcomed you, invited you and appointed you to be His own and He will never change His mind about you. Is that how you view your relationship with Christ?

If you really saw yourself as called by God Almighty to Himself, what difference would that make in how you live today?

Does your life demonstrate that you have been called by God to His purpose?

Are you living according to God’s purpose for you or your own?

Do you remember that your calling is to a holy living?

Remember we are called to His work, not ours. Grace is given to accomplish His work in us and through us. To that end may God be glorified!