

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG52-Eagerly Await Salvation

We can get conditioned to think about salvation in terms of the cross of Christ, forgiveness for sin, and eternal life. But salvation includes far more and should impact every area of our daily life, so I want to address this today in this podcast.

I'm beginning by reading Hebrews, the ninth chapter, starting with verse 28. "So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation, without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him." This is a unique verse. It is talking, number one, about the fact that Christ appears twice. It talks about the fact that He appears once again a second time; but uniquely, in this verse, it says that when He appears this second time, He is not appearing with reference to sin. In other words, He is not coming again to deal with sin. Sin was dealt with once for all in the sacrifice that was made by Christ on the cross. When He comes again, however, it says He is coming with reference to our salvation; and because of that, we should eagerly await Him, and we should await that coming of Him in our lives.

This is something I want us to get hold of. Number one, we must have this eager anticipation of His appearing to us. If the Lord met you and came to you in a salvation experience, then you should eagerly await Him coming again into your life and remaining in your life, being in your life on a daily basis.

I want to read Isaiah 25, starting with verses 6-9. It says, "The Lord of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples on this mountain; a banquet of aged wine, choice pieces with marrow, and refined, aged wine. And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, even the veil which is stretched over all nations. He will swallow up death for all time, and the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, and He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken. And it will be said in that day, 'Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.'"

As we read these verses from the Hebrew Scriptures, from what is called the Old Testament by many, we see that there are many aspects that are tied into this concept of salvation. He comes, number one, to prepare a lavish banquet for us. So we know this is not talking about His first appearance, because in His first appearance, He came to suffer and to do away with our sin, and to bring about eternal life for those who believe in Him. But now we are speaking about an appearing that has been awaited by His people, to prepare a lavish banquet, to remove the veil – swallow up the covering which is over the peoples, that is stretched over the nations – to swallow up death for all time, and to wipe away tears from all faces. And He will remove the reproach from His people Israel, speaking about the Jewish people. We know the promise of the covenant that He has with them, that is not finalized yet. For the Lord has spoken these things. And in that day, everyone is going to say, "Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited. We have waited for God." Following our salvation experience with Him and our first meeting with Him, whereby we were reconciled to the Father through Christ, then we wait for this next appearing, this next experience, if you will, with Yeshua, with Jesus, and this experience with the Father. And He is coming now with a blessing, setting and preparing a banquet, removing every tear from our faces, doing all of these things. And according to this verse, this is what we have waited for.

We are now in this time. And if you have received the salvation experience in Christ, then you also are in this timeframe where now you are waiting for this great appearing again of God in your life, of Christ in your life; and that is called salvation. We have waited that He might save us. You say, "Well, I thought we were already saved. I thought salvation was just relating to this idea that I have sinned and failed, and He comes, He suffered on the cross, and now I have forgiveness for those sins – and that is the extent of salvation." That is what I want us to recognize. Too many people limit salvation to that original experience of forgiveness of sin, and being reconciled to the Father and brought into eternal life. And we thank God for that aspect. Is that salvation? Absolutely. We are saved in that moment. We are saved from the death sentence which comes by having sinned. It says the wage of sin, or the cost of sin, is death. So God delivers from the death sentence that we were under because of our sin. But salvation is far more than that. And you can't just stop with this idea that I am forgiven of my sins, and now I am just here living my life. No. We see that there is much more that is encompassed in this concept, in this terminology, of salvation, what it is and what it is for.

He is going to bring blessings. It says He prepares a lavish banquet for all of His people. In other words, He is going to feed us, bless us, minister to us. He brings out the choicest of wine and marrow. We know that there is the marriage supper of the Lamb that we look forward to. So there is the blessing that comes, and there is the release that comes to us. He wipes every tear from our eye, He takes away the pain that we have been through in this life through suffering things in our own personal being. Our soul needs to be healed, and He is that. He restores our soul, according to Psalm 23. So we look for this experience.

It also says that we should rejoice and be glad in His salvation. So there is this joy, rejoicing, worship, everything becomes this celebration. That is what we are expecting! Not just to have our sin removed from us, and then live life kind of devoid from a daily reality of the Presence of God with us, or the Presence of Christ with us. No, it is much more than that.

Many times we must look into the Hebrew Scriptures to really grasp what the totality of this salvation is all about. I want to read Isaiah 33:2. It says, "O Lord, be gracious to us; we have waited for You. Be their strength every morning, our salvation also in the time of distress." Salvation comes when we are in distress. And the reason I wanted to bring this podcast today is I am burdened for so many people. We are in difficult times. The world has gone mad, it seems like, and things are very, very difficult. I want you to understand that Christ, Yeshua, Jesus applies to your life now. There is a salvation for you now. It is not just a matter of, "When I sin or if I fail, I can turn to Him and receive Communion, and have more forgiveness of sin." No, beyond forgiveness. Remember what it said in Hebrews – He is appearing again; He will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin. When He comes this second time, when you receive this appearing of Him in your life, after the salvation experience of deliverance from sin, He doesn't come with reference to sin. Sin is dealt with once for all. It says very clearly that Christ does not have to go to the cross every day or more than once. He came once, and that was enough. And yet we also see and know He is appearing again – not just once again at the end of the age is He returning. I think this is also saying He returns a second time; He appears a second time every day. The Scriptures talk about morning by morning is our mercy renewed. The salvation experience that we have in God is something that is to be a daily experience for us. And that is what Isaiah was talking about. It says that we have waited for Him. "Be our strength every morning." See, every day we should receive this. It says, "Our salvation also in the time of distress." We are living in days of distress. We are living in difficult times. We need a Savior daily. We need Yeshua in our lives, Jesus in our lives, on a daily basis to

bring about this total package, this complete vision of salvation. What does it mean? It means He takes care of all of our needs.

I want to read some more Scriptures as we go through. Many of them will be out of the Hebrew Scriptures, because again, we see many times more clearly in the Hebrew, the expression of salvation as being more than dealing with sin. Part of the reason for that is because under the covenant that they had, sin was something that was dealt with, and they didn't go back to it all the time. They looked as God to be something else in a more complete and thorough picture of salvation. So in Hebrews 10, I just want to read this, starting with verses 12-14. "But He," speaking of Christ, "having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time onward until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet. For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified."

I want to re-emphasize with this Scripture: He dealt with sin one time, and He doesn't have to deal with it again. The provision is there, the release and the forgiveness is there. But it says He ascended to the right hand of the Father, and He now is waiting from that time onward until every enemy, His enemies, are made a footstool of His feet. So we are looking for something more complete. All of His enemies will be dealt with; and in that same way, our enemies will be dealt with, the things that we are battling on a daily basis are dealt with. Because by this one sacrifice, He has forever perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. That is us. And so we reach into this concept of a broader vision of a salvation that God brings.

One of the things I want to deal with in the story here is about the Exodus, because it becomes such a clear picture of this idea of salvation and all that salvation is capable of meaning in our lives. I'll start with Psalm 106, verses 7-12. It says, "Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders" – the word in Hebrew also means *miracles* – "They did not remember Your abundant kindnesses, but rebelled by the sea, at the Red Sea. Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name." So it is referring to the deliverance from Egypt as salvation. He saved them at that time. That had nothing to do with sin. It had everything to do with their deliverance from their enemy and their bondage of slavery, and the torture that they were going through in Egypt. Verse 8 again, "Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name, that He might make His power known. Thus He rebuked the Red Sea and dried it up, and He led them through the deeps, as through the wilderness. So He saved them from the hand of the one who hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. The waters covered their adversaries; not one of them was left. Then they believed His words; they sang His praise." This should be part of our concept.

What are you facing in your life? What enemies do you have? Be they physical enemies – maybe it is a physical illness or disease that is the enemy against your life right now. Maybe it is individuals. Maybe it is what is going on in society as a whole that is coming against, as enemies of God, the people of God, and trying to do away with faith in God, and belief in God, and our ability to worship God today in our society, in our cultures. Whatever the enemies are, God is going to deal with them. And that is called salvation. "He saved them from the hand of the one who hated them." What is it that is trying to destroy you today? God is here as your salvation.

The first step, yes, was deliverance from the guilt of sin. But beyond that, He comes again into your life a second time. And He comes to deal with your enemies, deal with that which has set itself against you and against your life. In Exodus the third chapter, starting at verses 7-8, it says, "The Lord said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of

their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite...." So He talks about this great blessing of land that He is going to give them. You see what He is doing? He is blessing them in this. He is delivering them from the taskmaster that is over them, that is making their life miserable.

What is it that is making our life miserable today? What is it that is coming against us, that is oppressing us? Israel was oppressed in a way that they couldn't serve God as they were supposed to. These were the chosen people of the Lord, and they were supposed to be His worshipers and be those that served Him and were given to Him. But they were incapable of doing that, because of the taskmasters of Egypt. And God said, "Listen, I heard their cry." God is going to hear your cry. It started out in the first verse in Hebrews talking about this earnest expectation, this earnest waiting. We wait eagerly for Him. We wait with an anticipation. I want to loose anticipation in your life. I want you to have an eager anticipation every day that God is your answer; that Yeshua, that Jesus, is in your life to be your answer – not just to forgive your sin, but He is to deliver you from every taskmaster.

What is it that is oppressing you? Is it some type of an addiction? Is it some type of physical ailment? Is it cancer? Whatever it is, God will hear our cry and He will come down as He did for Israel to deliver us. This, we must understand, is all part of our salvation. And we should believe and anticipate it, really wait for it, as they are saying, "We wait for You, Lord." We wait for You to come into our lives today, this day, and be the answer that we need for every oppression, for every illness, for every enemy, for every taskmaster that we face, just as You were for them in Egypt.

Exodus 14:13-16 says, "But Moses said to the people, 'Do not fear!' Boy, how many of us face fear in this day and age? Fear of COVID-19. Fear of what is coming from nations around us. We should not fear. He comes to deal with our fear. "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent.' Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the sons of Israel to go forward. As for you, lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the sons of Israel shall go through the midst of the sea on dry land.'" God refers to the deliverance of Israel through the dry ground of the Red Sea as salvation.

See again, it is a picture of salvation that we don't often have. God wants to dry up everything that is threatening your life so that you walk through on a clear path. You can walk into His Presence without battling these things. We are not capable of battling what we face on our own; they are too strong for us. But He is able, and He is capable, and He will hear our cry; and He will be moved by this earnest expectation, this waiting on the Lord that we have, believing, entrusting ourselves. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not to your own understanding; in all your ways – in all of our ways, see, that we look to Him to be the answer – and He will direct our path. And He will be there, and He will deal with that which is too mighty and too great for us to deal with.

Exodus 14, starting at verses 29-30, says, "But the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea, and the waters were like a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore." Here, again, what is the word in verse 30? "The Lord saved Israel." That is salvation. It seems like a natural level deliverance; but God is here, and wants to be in your life, as a natural level deliverance for your natural problems. He wants to help you in every aspect, not just spiritually, but in the natural needs that we have.

In Exodus 15:1-4, it says, "Then Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song to the Lord, and said, 'I will sing to the Lord, for He is highly exalted; the horse and its rider He has hurled into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him; my father's God, and I will extol Him. The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is His name. Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; and the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea.'"

See, this salvation that is ours will bring us into the greatest worship we have ever known. Our worship will be a result of Him saving us from every need that we have, everything that we knew. I mean, Israel knew they were dead. They were facing the Red Sea on one side and the Egyptians on the other side, the Egyptian army; they knew they were dead, they knew it was all over. But it wasn't, because they appropriated a salvation that they had never imagined existed before in God. I want you to do the same thing today. I want you to imagine. I want you to have an earnest expectation for a salvation that manifests itself in a way you have never thought God would come and help you or be in your life; but He will. And just as He was for them, He will be there for us, He will be there for you. And what I love is that the end result of it is that we worship Him. We worship Him with all of our hearts, because He has done that which we could not do for ourselves.

Another place that we see so much of this type of salvation expressed is through David in the Psalms. So I want to read a few Psalms just to put an exclamation point on this concept. Psalm 35, starting at verses 7-10, says, "For without cause they hid their net for me. Without cause they dug a pit for my soul. Let destruction come upon him unawares, and let the net which he hid catch himself; into that very destruction let him fall. And my soul shall rejoice in the Lord; it shall exult in His salvation. All my bones will say, 'Lord, who is like You, who delivers the afflicted from him who is too strong for him, and the afflicted and the needy from him who robs him?'"

David went through so many things in his life. And every time he did, he called out to God; and he knew God as his Savior, as his Savior from that which was psychic. You know, he is talking about his soul rejoicing; he talks about these things coming to destroy him on a soul level. Well, that is akin to spiritual. So, physical is one thing; soul is another; spiritual is another; but God is there on all of these levels. Salvation works on all of these levels. "I pray that your whole spirit, soul, and body," it says, "will be delivered, will be sanctified and made whole." He comes for every level of our being to see us released and delivered.

Psalm 59:1-3 says, "Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; set me securely on high away from those who rise up against me. Deliver me from those who do iniquity and save me from men of bloodshed. For behold, they have set an ambush for my life; fierce men launch an attack against me, not for my transgression nor for my sin, O Lord." See again, David is separating, "This isn't about my sin, this is about what is coming against me to destroy me. They are looking to ambush me. These are men of iniquity, they are men of bloodshed coming to destroy me. And I'm calling unto You, Lord, for Your salvation."

Verses 4-5 say, "For no guilt of mine, they run and set themselves against me. Arouse Yourself to help me, and see! You, O Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to punish all the nations; do not be gracious to any who are treacherous in iniquity." I like the beginning of this, where he says secure me on a high place. Lord, lift us up in the Spirit. We have the Holy Spirit in our life. Lift us up into the Spirit, into a level where these things are not able to get to us and reach us any longer.

I'm telling you, this goes on. I'll do one more, because it is so great if we can get the concept of this. Psalm 142, verses 6-7. "Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors,

for they are too strong for me. Bring my soul out of prison, so that I may give thanks to Your name; the righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me." Boy, this just weaves in and out of all that He is going to do. "Give heed to my cry." Lord, we cry out to You in this anticipation, this earnest expectation, that You are going to move in our lives to bring salvation. "I have been brought low." What brings you low? What is keeping you down? What is holding you down? What is bringing you into depression in your life? You need to be delivered from all that is persecuting you. "Lord, bring deliverance." Deliverance and salvation are hand in hand, the same thing. God deliver us from all of those things.

When he gets down to verse 7, he says, "Deliver my soul out of prison." It breaks your heart to see how many people are locked up in a prison cell of things that are oppressing them in their life, whatever it be. It is too vast to name for every individual what it is, but you know what it is. You know the things that are holding you in bondage, that are keeping your soul locked in a prison where you can't get out. But what happens when we are set free, we come in again to give thanks to Your Name. Our freedom brings worship to God. And ultimately, that is what He is looking for.

I could keep going with this, but I'm going to end it. I just want to remind us of a few key points to me from all of this. Number one, if you have been saved through faith in Christ from sin, then you must have an earnest expectation for Yeshua, Jesus, to appear a second time, appear again in your life. Believe for that. Get hold of this concept.

Number two, I would say Yeshua's second appearing in your life is not going to be to bring eternal life and forgiveness of sin. That is not the purpose – you have that. Don't just keep going around in a circle and only reach for the Lord when you fall in sin. Bring Him into your life a second time on another level.

Lastly, I would say you must now expect salvation and deliverance in your daily life, on a daily basis in your daily life, from physical and spiritual bondages, addictions, battles and enemies that are too strong and overwhelming for you to conquer on your own. I believe this word will be a blessing and work in your life daily. Amen.