

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR SALVATION TESTIMONIES

“...if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Rom 10:9-11.

Satan opposes our salvation or any new commitment to the Lord.

Satan opposes any new commitment that takes away any allegiance to him. He demands the right to keep what belongs to him.

Examples:

Peter's taking the role of headship over the brethren.

“And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.” Luke 22:31-32.

Joshua being high priest overseeing the rebuilding of the temple.

“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?” Zech 3:1-2.

Jesus before commencing His ministry.

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.” Jesus had to overcome each accusation by the word of His testimony. ***“Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'”*** Matt 4:1-2, & 10-11.

Satan's accusations are overcome by the “word of our testimonies.”

“Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come...” Rev 12:10.

The reading declares that salvation has come, and we are transferred into the kingdom of Christ. Paul confirms this: ***“He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.”*** Col 1:13.

The reading from Revelation goes on to say that Satan has the power to accuse us day and night, but that we have been given the tools to overcome his accusations. ***“...for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.”*** And they overcame him by ***the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.***” Rev 12:10-12.

Satan opposes our salvation, but the reading lists the three ways Jesus provided us for overcoming them. They are:

1. ***“by the blood of the Lamb.”*** We are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. ***“...and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”*** Col 1:14.

No matter what Satan accuses us of before or after our salvation, there is one answer that he cannot dispute. ***“...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”*** 1 John 1:7.

2. ***“The word of our testimonies,”*** We testify to our belief in the Scriptures.

In this case we testify that we believe that Jesus is the Son of God... He bore the punishment for our sins on the cross...we are now righteous and blameless before God...we are eternally saved.

What we testify to is very important, as it establishes the matter. ***“...by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.”*** Deut 19:15. It is not often understood that we are testifying to the spiritual world as well as to those in our company. We are testifying before Satan and all powers of darkness, and before God and His heavenly hosts. Before we enter into the Lord’s salvation Satan opposes us before God. The testimony of our mouths in front of witnesses establishes our salvation.

In principle, our salvation is similar to a marriage commitment. In both we enter into a life-long covenant commitment before God. The groom doesn’t say, “you know how we feel, so pronounce us married.” By the testimony of their mouths, the bride and groom enter into a covenant commitment in the presence of God, so that He can respond by overseeing their marriage relationship, to keep it, and bless it.

By the word of our mouth our salvation is established in heaven, on earth, and has to be acknowledged by Satan and his powers of darkness.

3. The third tool provided for overcoming is vital. ***“and they loved not their lives unto death.”***

Again this is established by the words of your mouth. Your confession is, “I choose to make Jesus Christ the Lord of my life.”

“Then Joshua said to the children of Israel: "How long will you neglect to go and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers has given you?" Josh 18:3

And Peter instructs us, ***“Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure...”*** 2 Peter 1:10.

When Jesus’ disciples returned and exulted over their power over the enemy, Jesus reminded them that their real basis for rejoicing was that their names were written in heaven in “the Book of Life.”

“Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:19-20.