

03 - “I Am Rescued”

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Introduction

- **Focus:** Salvation is both a spiritual transformation for the future and a healing process for the heart and mind in the present.
- **Human Condition:**
- **Romans 3:23:** “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
- Sin is more than actions—it affects our state of being, leading to guilt and shame.

Part 1: The Struggle with Sin

- **Cognitive Dissonance:**
- Sin creates internal turmoil when our actions conflict with our values.
- Leads to frustration, disappointment, and emotional sensitivity.
- **Romans 7:17-25 (MSG):**
- Paul expresses the universal struggle: wanting to do good but failing due to the power of sin.
- **Key Question:** “Is there no one who can do anything for me?”
- **Answer:** “Thank God, Jesus Christ can and does!”

Part 2: Jesus’ Rescue Plan

1. **Incarnation:**
 - Jesus’ perfect life, teachings, healing, and love.
2. **Crucifixion:**
 - Jesus bore the sins of the world, providing forgiveness through His sacrifice.
3. **Resurrection:**
 - Victory over death and the promise of new life.

Key Verse: John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Part 3: The Results of Salvation

1. **Past:**
 - Reconciliation from past sins through Jesus’ atonement.
2. **Present:**
 - Freedom from guilt and shame, leading to mental and emotional healing.
3. **Future:**
 - Hope and belief transform life’s narrative, creating a positive outlook.

Part 4: The Process of Salvation

- **Ephesians 2:8-9:** “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God—not by works.”

- **Five Steps to Salvation:**

1. **Acknowledgment of Sin:**

- Admit faults and take responsibility (self-awareness and confession).

2. **Repentance:**

- Turn away from sin and toward God (cognitive restructuring).

3. **Faith in Jesus Christ:**

- Trust in Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.

4. **Baptism and New Life:**

- Symbolizes dying to the old self and rising in Christ.

5. **Ongoing Discipleship:**

- A continuous journey of faith, growth, and community support.

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17 – “If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

Part 5: Benefits of Salvation

1. **Humbled Reliance on God:**

- **1 Peter 5:6-7:** “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God... casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”

2. **Freedom from Guilt and Shame:**

- Embracing a new identity in Christ.

3. **Strength for Daily Life:**

- Salvation provides resilience, peace, and guidance.

Conclusion

- **Call to Action:**

- Reflect on Jesus’ rescue plan and embrace His salvation.

- Take practical steps: confess sins, turn to God, trust in Jesus, and walk in faith daily.
- Celebrate the transformation as a new creation in Christ.
- **Final Assurance:**
- Jesus offers hope, healing, and rescue for all who come to Him.