## **GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION**

Eternal life is available to you, right now. In the privacy and freedom of your soul, you can tell God the Father that you are believing in Jesus Christ, and that is the moment of eternal life. God has done His part of salvation—the Father sent the Son; the Son went to the cross. Now you appropriate the grace of God for salvation through faith alone in Christ alone.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that [salvation] not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. (Ephesians 2:8–9)

*Grace* is all that God is free to do for mankind on the basis of the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross. *Faith* is a non-meritorious system of perception based on confidence in the authority, veracity, and ability of God to provide salvation. Grace is the gift of salvation; faith is the means. The object of faith, our Lord Jesus Christ, has all the merit.

Your attitude toward Jesus Christ determines your eternal future. You can either believe in Christ for eternal life or reject Him for eternal condemnation. The choice is yours! Consider this:

• As Jesus Christ hung between heaven and earth, God the Father imputed our sins to Him and judged them.

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross. (1 Pet. 2:24*a*)

• Jesus Christ paid the penalty of sin. He became our substitute.

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf [as our substitute], that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Cor. 5:21)

• Because of the work of Jesus Christ, salvation is available to everyone.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten [uniquely born] Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved," (Acts 16:31*a*)

At issue: He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey [believe] the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. (John 3:36)

Excerpt of Post by R.B. Thieme, Jr. From Berachah Church Houston, Texas