

# Our Living Salvation

Hebrews 7:11-28



## The Christian life can be longer and harder than expected

Jesus said: "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved." *Matthew 24:12-13*

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him." *James 1:12*

## Where does the strength come from to be faithful to the end?

### The Story of God's People

God is life, which He freely gave to people  
God designed people to be in relationship with Him  
But there was a problem...

"Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.  
But your iniquities have separated [wrong thoughts, words, or actions] you from your God;  
your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear." *Isaiah 59:1-2*

Their sins separated God's people from God

But God made a way

At the "ark of the **covenant**" God met the people  
Surrounded by the tabernacle to keep people away  
Only the **high priest** could enter once a year

From the tribe of **Levi** and the family of **Aaron**  
Only after sacrifices, that had to be repeated  
And when that priest died, another took his place

While all of this was still active...

"The Lord says to my lord: The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind:  
'You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.'" *Psalms 110:4*

Melchizedek was not in the line of Aaron, or of Levi, or even of Israel or of Abraham

→ The Law, the sacrifices, and the priesthood were never enough to fully restore people to God  
Nothing inside the universe can restore us to God

### Hebrews 7:11-19

When we pray...

We don't fully know God's will  
Sin still clouds our thinking and our hearts  
Our fellowship with God is not yet perfect

When Jesus intercedes...

He fully knows the Father's will (and agrees)  
With clarity and purity of thought and heart  
In perfect fellowship with the Father

### The Big Idea

**In God, we have an unending and unstoppable will and action and power to rescue and give life to all who trust in Jesus**

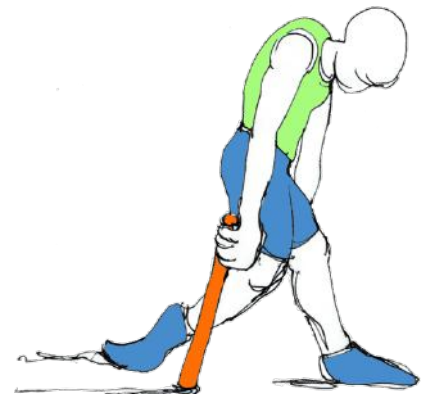
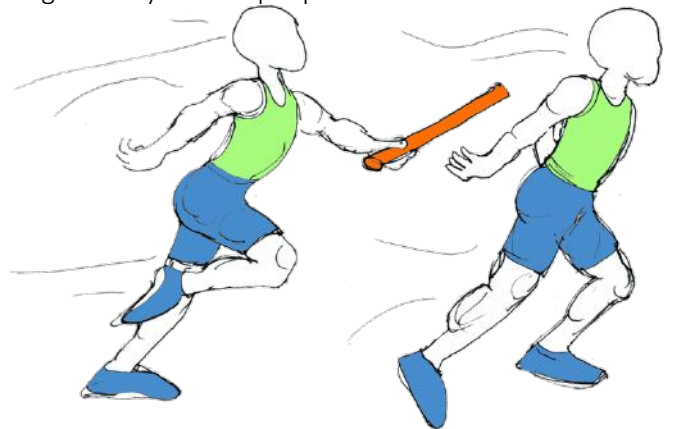
God the Father → Will  
God the Son → Action  
God the Holy Spirit → Power & Application

A relay race...

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall  
Where does the strength come from to stay faithful to God...

The will, action, and power of God the Father, Son, and Spirit interceding for us

The committee is meeting...



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<sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? *Romans 8:26-32*

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For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

*Isaiah 53:12b*

Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

*Hebrews 7:25*

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### My poor thinking...

Salvation is just something Jesus did  
To rescue us from the Father's will to judge  
Now it's up to us

### Now I see...

Salvation is not merely an event Jesus did but rather than a person He continues to be  
The Godhead is united in the will, action, and power to save all who trust in Jesus

### Salvation is...

**Past:** Jesus' finished work on the cross, directed by the Father's will, by the Spirit's power

**Present:** Father, Son, and Spirit working for all who are in Christ

**Future:** God's completed work in the new heaven and the new earth fully experienced by all who trust in Jesus

## So what?

### Focus our minds and hearts

The Godhead is united in working all things together for our good and overflowing joy (eventually and forever)

We are never alone in our journey of faith

"Preach to your soul"

Each morning ... and ... When trouble comes

"Arise, my soul, arise, **shake off thy guilty fears.**

The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.

Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands;

my name is written on His hands." *John Wesley*

### Draw near to God

Jesus makes us "perfect" = completely fit for relationship with God

The Godhead eagerly welcomes us by the Father's will, Jesus' actions & the Spirit's power!

"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one." *Romans 8:33-34*

### Tell people

This is the Good News in Jesus!

The complete opposite of an angry God who is prone to judge

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## Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Have you put your trust in this God of Salvation? If not, is there something that is holding you back?
2. What 'guilty fear' tends to infect your soul? Why? What will help you preach to your soul about this Saving God? What helps you do that?

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## Conversation Starters

What renews your strength when you are discouraged in yourself, especially with griefs and regrets?