

Our Response to a Lifesaving Rescue

IDENTITY MATTERS: Stepping into who you are in Christ

October 10, 2021 Romans 3 Pastor Jonathan Schaeffer

*The Son of Man came to **seek** and to **save** the lost. The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to **give his life** as a ransom for many.*

LUKE 19:10; MARK 10:45

A Daring Rescue

- According to God's analysis of our condition, **each of us is in major trouble** and unable to rescue ourselves.
- When we realize what the Lord Jesus has done in rescuing us, it calls for **a response of love and faith**.

Drowning Because of Our Sin

- **3 clarifications from Paul**
 1. There are benefits to Jewish heritage even if it can't save you. ROMANS 3:1-2
 2. Even if others are unfaithful, **God is *always faithful***, and he's a fair and just Judge. ROMANS 3:3-8
 3. While we might do good deeds, Paul says no one can be good in terms of being right with God. ROMANS 3:9-20
- **Why the riptide of sin is so dangerous**
 - God our Father deeply loves every person, and each one of us is made in his image. GENESIS 1:27; JOHN 3:16
 - **Sin does damage:** to us, and to the people around us, which makes sin highly offensive to God.
 - Our sin, if not dealt with, will incur God's wrath. *The **wrath of God** is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people... those who do such things deserve death.* ROMANS 1:18,32 *Because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the **day of God's wrath**.* ROMANS 2:5,9; 3:5; EPH. 5:6; REV. 14:9-11

- Merely keeping **the laws of God will never keep us afloat**. *No one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.* ROMANS 3:20 NLT

The Father rescued us through his Son, Jesus

- **Jesus, who never sinned, willingly took the wrath** that our sins deserved so that we could be right with God. That's why Jesus came! He kept the Law perfectly, and gives us his perfect record when we trust in him. He took all of our failures and sins and paid the penalty for them on the cross.
- **Genuine faith in Jesus is the only way.** He is our only hope for rescue, and he is able to change everything: *God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin.* ROMANS 3:24-25
 - PAST: We're freed from the **penalty** of sin.
 - PRESENT: We're delivered from the **power** of sin.
 - FUTURE: We'll be saved from the **presence** of sin.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- **What is my rational response to what Jesus did for me?**
- **Am I following him with both love and trust?**

*We are made right with God by placing our **faith in Jesus** Christ. And this is **true for everyone** who believes, no matter who we are.* ROMANS 3:22

Lord Jesus, I want to put my trust in you.

*Thank you for your offer of forgiveness: it means a fresh start here, and a priceless inheritance in heaven. Thank you for your great love in sending your Son, Jesus, to die for me. I want to share this life with you, Jesus, and to know you as a friend. Please be the leader of my life from this day forward. Help me to trust and follow you as you lead me. **Amen.***