

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Man, by nature, is unable to obey or please God for his salvation.

Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden not only doomed himself, but brought spiritual death to all of his descendents.

- God promised death if Adam ate of the tree (Genesis 2:17).
- Adam's sin was passed on to all of his descendents (Romans 5:12 with verses 17-19).
- All men are dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1 and Colossians 2:13).

This death is one of spiritual ability and desire, not of physical or mental capacity (see Ephesians 2:2-3).

- Man in sin is God's enemy and as such cannot please Him (Romans 8:7-8).
- Man in sin will not seek after God (Romans 3:11).
- Man in sin does not fear God (Romans 3:18).
- Jesus Christ shows us that man in sin cannot hear God (John 8:43-47).
- Man in sin cannot know God's ways (1 Corinthians 2:14).

God tells us in Scripture that more than rehabilitation is needed for man.

- Kindness will not sway sinful man from his sin (Isaiah 26:10).
- Miracles will not persuade him from his sin (Luke 16:31).

It takes faith to please God as Hebrews 11:6 plainly teaches, but:

- no man born naturally in this world has faith (Psalm 10:4). His pride makes him refuse to seek God and he does not want allow God in any of his thoughts.
- the apostle Paul realized this lack of spiritual ability and prayed to God to be delivered from those who lacked faith in 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2.

God, being the All Wise God, took all of this into consideration when He formulated His plan to save some of mankind.

- He looked through time and saw that no man wanted His help (Psalms 14:1-3 and 55:1-3).
- He understood the depths of man's rebellion and wickedness (Romans 3:9-18).

IF man is to be changed, God has to change his will.

- Man's sinful will fights against God's Spirit (Galatians 5:17).
- But those who are saved show that God has worked in their lives (Philippians 2:13).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Man's will and works are expressly denied in obtaining salvation.

God plainly denies that man's will is active in his salvation from sin.

- Which were born, **not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man**, but **of God**. John 1:13
 1. “not of blood” denies any scheme of racial salvation.
 2. “nor of the will of the flesh” denies any personal decision or acceptance.
 3. “nor of the will of man” denies anyone else's efforts on his behalf.
 4. “but of God” states the only will that is operative in man's salvation: God's.
- For he saith to Moses, **I will have mercy** on whom **I will have mercy**, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, **but of God** that sheweth mercy. Romans 9:15-16
 1. God shows mercy according to His will.
 2. Man's will is not even under consideration regarding God showing mercy.

God denies that man's works are active in his salvation from sin.

- Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness **without works**, Romans 4:6

God imputes righteousness to man without his works.
- (For *the children* being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that **the purpose of God** according to election might stand, **not of works**, but **of him that calleth**;) Romans 9:11
- So then *it is* **not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God** that sheweth mercy. Romans 9:16

The choice (election) is based on God's calling, not man's works.
Man's efforts (running) do not come into consideration.

1. No man has any works to boast of regarding his salvation (Ephesians 2:9).
2. It is God's purpose and grace, not man's works, that are the basis for man's calling (2 Timothy 1:9).
3. Salvation is according to God's mercy, not man's righteous works (Titus 3:5).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

God considers faith to be a work of righteousness: as such it cannot be the basis for man's salvation.

1. Faith is a work (John 6:28-29) but salvation is not of works (Titus 3:5).
2. Faith is a weighty matter of the law (Matthew 23:23) but righteousness does not come by the law (Galatians 2:21; 5:4).
3. The exercise of faith is a commandment (1 John 3:23) but commandments only show man to be guilty (Romans 3:19-20).
4. Faith that has not good works is no better than a devil's faith and cannot save anyone (James 2:19-20).

Salvation comes to men while they are dead, able neither to will nor to work.

1. For **when we were yet without strength**, in due time Christ died for **the ungodly**. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners**, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, **when we were enemies**, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. Romans 5:6-10

When we were without strength, ungodly, sinners and enemies.

2. And you *hath he quickened*, **who were dead** in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past **ye walked** according to the course of this world, **according to the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the **children of wrath**, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were **dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) Ephesians 2:1-5

We were dead, following Satan, children of wrath, dead in sins.

1. Salvation is by grace with none of man's works involved (Ephesians 2:5 and Romans 11:6).
2. Salvation is a gift (Romans 5:18 and 6:23).
3. Salvation is not a debt that God owes to anyone (Romans 4:4 and 11:35).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Only God's will is active in man's salvation

God's will:

Is like the wind, going where IT wants to go, undirected by man.

- The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: **so is every one that is born of the Spirit.** John 3:8

Is based on His pleasure, not man's desires.

- Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, **according to the good pleasure of his will,** Ephesians 1:5

It is God's choice to show mercy, not man's to command.

- For he saith to Moses, **I will** have mercy on whom **I will** have mercy, and **I will** have compassion on whom **I will** have compassion. So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but **of God** that sheweth mercy. Romans 9:15-16

His will through Christ's offering of Himself to God that sanctifies us.

- Then said he, Lo, **I come to do thy will,** O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. **By the which will we are sanctified** through the **offering of the body of Jesus Christ** once *for all.* Hebrews 10:9-10

God's faith is the basis for our salvation.

1. It is God's determination to save us (Psalm 89:28-37).
2. It is God's faithfulness that brings about our salvation (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).
3. It is God Who remains faithful even when our faith may fail (2 Timothy 2:13).

Christ's faith is the active ingredient in our salvation.

1. Christ's faith in God to redeem those whom He died for (Hebrews 2:13).
2. Christ's faithfulness as an obedient servant to do God's will (Hebrews 3:1-2).
3. Christ's faith that is imparted to us and evidenced by our belief (Romans 3:21-26).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Faith and good works are the results of, not the conditions for, salvation

All spiritual ability has to be given by God.

- For it is **God** which **worketh in you** both **to will** and **to do** of *his* good pleasure. Philippians 2:13

God works the ability to desire (will) and to accomplish (do) righteousness (see also Psalm 110:3 and 65:4).

- And **I will give them one heart**, and one way, **that they may fear me** for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but **I will put my fear in their hearts**, that they shall not depart from me. Jeremiah 32:39-40

God gives His people a heart to fear Him.

1. God creates the eyes that see and the ears that hear His ways (Proverbs 20:12).
 - a. A man must have spiritual life to see God's kingdom (John 3:3).
 - b. A man must already be of God to hear Christ's words (John 8:47).
2. Jesus Christ gives eternal life so that men may know God (John 17:2-3).

God's children are created to do good works, not because of them.

- For we are **his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

God creates us first in Christ Jesus so that we are then able to walk in good works.

- Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Titus 2:14

Christ gave Himself for us so that we would be a people who are zealous for good works.

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Faith is given to us in salvation.

Faith is not something that all men have.

- And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for **all men have not faith**. 2 Thessalonians 3:2

Faith, like good works, is part of the fruit of the Spirit in a man's life.

- But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, **faith**, Galatians 5:22

Faith shows the Spirit's leadership in a man's life.

- For **as many as are led by the Spirit** of God, they are the sons of God. Romans 8:14

Faith is obtained through God's righteousness as His gift.

- Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that **have obtained like precious faith** with us **through the righteousness of God** and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as **his divine power hath given unto us** all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 2 Peter 1:1-3

Faith and good works are evidences of salvation, not prerequisites for it.

1. God accepts a man. His faith and works show that acceptance, they don't obtain it (Acts 10:34-35).
 - a. Before Peter came with the gospel Cornelius already feared God (10:2).
 - b. Before Peter came to preach Cornelius gave alms (10:2).
 - c. Before Peter came with the Good News Cornelius prayed to God (10:2).
 - d. Before Peter came with the word of God He had revealed His approval of Cornelius (10:4).
 - e. Before Peter came God had cleansed Cornelius (10:15, 34).
 - f. All that Peter did was come to tell Cornelius what God wanted him to do (10:6).
2. Those who truly do righteousness show their heritage (1 John 2:29 and 3:7).
3. Those who really love show their birth from God (1 John 4:7 and 3:14).
4. Those with faith show that they are born of God (1 John 5:1, 4).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Jesus Christ saves sinners BY HIMSELF, without any human cooperation.

Just as condemnation came by ONE man, so salvation comes by ONE man.

- Wherefore, as **by one man** sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. But not as the offence, so also *is* the free gift. For if through **the offence of one** many be dead, much more the grace of God, and **the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ**, hath abounded unto many. And not as *it was* by one that sinned, *so is* the gift: for the judgment *was* by one to condemnation, but the free gift *is* of many offences unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life **by one**, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of life. For as by **one man's disobedience** many were made sinners, so by **the obedience of one** shall many be made righteous. Romans 5:12-19

1. Adam was our legal representative who brought sin into the world.
2. Christ was our legal representative who paid the price for Adam's sin.
3. Our belief or disbelief has nothing to do with our condemnation: Adam's sin is ours.
4. Our belief or disbelief has nothing to do with our justification: Jesus' death is applied to His own.
5. We are chosen (elected) by God to the benefits of Christ's obedience (1 Peter 1:2).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

The new or everlasting covenant is in effect because of Christ's work.

- But **Christ** being come **an high priest** of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in **once** into the holy place, **having obtained eternal redemption** for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit **offered himself** without spot **to God**, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the **new testament**, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a **testament is of force** after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. Hebrews 9:11-17

1. Christ offers His sacrifice to God, not to man (vs. 14).
2. This offering secures our eternal inheritance (vs. 15).
3. Christ's death makes His covenant enforceable (vs. 17).

Jesus Christ's ONE act of obedience purged away all sins.

- Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, **when he had by himself purged our sins**, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Hebrews 1:3

Jesus purged our sins by Himself.

- Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. **By the which will** we are sanctified through the **offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all**. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered **one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For **by one offering he hath perfected** for ever them that are sanctified. Hebrews 10:9-14

1. We are sanctified by Jesus' offering Himself (vs.10).
2. He offered that sacrifice ONE TIME and then rested (vs. 12).
3. He perfected us for ever in that ONE offering (vs. 14).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

Jesus, by His own power, brought salvation alone and finished it.

- And I looked, and *there was* none to help; and I wondered that *there was* none to uphold: therefore **mine own arm brought salvation** unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. Isaiah 63:5

God, Himself, alone, brings salvation.

- These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that **he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him**. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: **I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do**. John 17:1-4

Jesus by Himself finished the work of salvation which God gave Him to do (John 19:30).

Any addition to Christ's work nullifies it and defeats the gospel message.

- I do not frustrate the grace of God: for **if righteousness come by the law**, then **Christ is dead in vain**. Galatians 2:21

Christ's death is empty if righteousness comes from the law.

- Christ is become of **no effect** unto you, whosoever of you are **justified by the law**; ye are fallen from grace. Galatians 5:4

Christ is of no effect if you receive justification by obedience to the law.

His name tells it all: Jesus

- And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: **for he shall save his people** from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

The teachings of Scripture do not give eternal life.

God's commandments (ordinances) do not contain "magical power" for salvation.

1. God's ordinances were **given to church members** to obey (1 Corinthians 11:1-2).
2. One of the best-known ordinances, **baptism**, is purely **symbolic** and figurative in its effect.
 - a. It is the **answer of a good conscience**, not a sacrament that makes a conscience good (**1 Peter 3:21**).
 - b. It shows us how we should view our lives, as dead to sin and alive to God (Romans 6:3-6).
3. **Communion** is a **memorial** of Christ's death, which is the source of our spiritual life (1 Corinthians 11:26).
4. The concept of "**sacraments**" is an invention of the Roman Catholic heresy and her offspring.
5. **All of God commandments** should be kept, not just the seven that Rome singles out for observance (Matthew 5:17-20).

The Gospel is the revelation of God's power in salvation, not a formula for obtaining eternal life.

The gospel does **no good** to a natural man.

- It is foolishness to him (1 Corinthians 1:18).
- He cannot receive it for it is a spiritual message (1 Corinthians 2:14 and Luke 16:31).
- He cannot hear the words of truth because he wants to believe a lie (John 8:43-47).

The gospel only brings life to light; **it evidences what God has done** in salvation.

- Those ordained to (appointed to) eternal life believe (Acts 13:48).
- The gospel is designed to bring immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10).

Belief of the gospel **shows God's** creative **power** is **active** in a person's life (Ephesians 1:19-20; 2:5-7, 10).

The **power needed** to give life resides in Christ only.

- God has given Him all power in heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18).
- He gives eternal life to whom He will (John 17:2).
- He is the Word of God that is quick (alive) and powerful (Hebrews 4:12-14).

The gospel is **good news** of **God's power in salvation**.

- The good news is that Christ is God's power in salvation (Romans 1:15-16).
- The message of the gospel is Jesus Christ, the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:23-24).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

The Scriptures contain examples of unconditional salvation.

John the Baptist shows evidence of regeneration before his birth.

- He leaped for joy at the presence of Christ while yet in his mother's womb (Luke 1:15, 44).
- Joy is a fruit that the Spirit of God resides in a person (Galatians 5:22).
- Those who are guided by the Spirit already are the children of God (Romans 8:14).

Cornelius was accepted of God before the gospel came to him in Acts 10.

- Before Peter came with the gospel he feared God (vs. 2).
- Before Peter came to preach he gave alms (vs. 2).
- Before Peter came with the Good News Cornelius prayed to God (10:2).
- Before Peter came with the word of God He had revealed His approval of Cornelius (10:4).
- Before Peter came God had cleansed Cornelius (10:15, 34).
- All that Peter did was come to tell Cornelius what God wanted him to do (10:6).

Lot was a righteous man who performed no conditions worthy of salvation (2 Peter 2:7-8).

Part of elect Israel was blind to the gospel yet saved by Christ (Romans 11:25-32).

- We know that it is elect Israel due to the "mystery" and the complete salvation promised.
- Jesus Christ, the Deliverer, brought salvation in His death and resurrection.
- This group would be enemies of the gospel, yet beloved by God.

Most of Israel that died in the wilderness participated in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:1-5).

Some Gentiles never have God's revelation of Christ but are justified by God (Romans 2:12-15).

1. They do by nature God's law.
 - a. This is something that carnal men cannot do (Romans 8:7-8).
 - b. God writes His laws in His people's hearts in the new covenant in Christ (Hebrews 8:8-12).
2. They are compared to unregenerate, natural Jews (Romans 2:28-29).

Men can fall from faith and good works (Galatians 5:4) but not from salvation.

- God will perform His appointed work (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).
- Jesus will fulfill God's will and lose nothing (John 6:39).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

This is the only way that God's glory can be maximized.

God wants man to know that He alone can save

- And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, **what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?** And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? *there is none good but one, that is, God:* **but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.** He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and *thy* mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go *and* sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard *it*, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, **Who then can be saved?** But Jesus beheld *them*, and said unto them, **With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.** Matthew 19:16-26

1. The young man, like all men, thought he could do something to please God himself (vs. 16).
2. Jesus confronts him with God's standard: perfection and service to God (vs. 17-21).
3. Christ's disciples marvel at the high cost of salvation (vs. 23-25).
4. Jesus contrasts man's inability with God's ability (vs. 26).

Fulfilled conditions give glory to man.

- Works get **wages** paid for their due, **not grace** (Romans 4:4).
- Works lead to **man boasting** of his ability (Ephesians 2:9).
- Works give no reason to glory in that which God gives (1 Corinthians 4:7).

God wants and deserves all the glory in salvation.

- The basis of election is to glorify God (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).
- God wants to make known His power and will in salvation (Romans 9:22-23).
- God wants to make known His grace and kindness in salvation (Ephesians 2:7).

Proofs of Unconditional Salvation

God made ALL THINGS for His glory.

- The LORD hath made all *things* for himself: yea, **even the wicked for the day of evil**. Proverbs 16:4

God made the wicked for His day of judgment to glorify Himself.

- Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created **all things**, and **for thy pleasure** they are and were created. Revelation 4:11

All creation exists for HIS pleasure.

Salvation is based on God's will for His own glory.

- Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, **according to the good pleasure of his will**, To the **praise of the glory of his grace**, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. Ephesians 1:5-6
- In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated **according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will**: That we should be **to the praise of his glory**, who first trusted in Christ. Ephesians 1:11-12