What Saves Us?

Ken Chapman · Joshua 6:1–20

INTRODUCTION

- Sometimes it's not that simple, is it? Sometimes there's more than one thing.
- The Lord said to Joshua, see, I have given Jericho into your hands. Its king and the mighty men of valor.
- This simple Old Testament Bible story illustrates for us how all three of those can work together… gift, obedience, and faith.

1 It Can Be More Than One Thing

Ephesians 2:4–5; Romans 5:1–2; 1 Peter 3:21

- What saves us today? The first thing we need to notice is that it can be more than one thing.
- Don't we think that our Almighty wise God can use more than one thing to destroy a city? Or to use more than one thing to save our soul.
- By grace you have been saved. What saves us? Grace. Another word for grace is simply gift.
- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- There is also an antitype which now saves us. Baptism.
- So which is it? Which saves us? There's three things at least.

2 One Thing Does Not Negate the Other

James 2:14–26

- The second point is that we understand that one thing does not negate the other thing.
- Assuming that all three respondents were correct, we would understand one does not negate the other.
- What does it profit, my brethren? If a man says he has faith but does not have works, can faith save him?
- Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- Obedience is the expression of our faith. Faith is a deep abiding trust that will do whatever is asked of it. They can't be separated.

3 That Doesn't Mean They're All Equal

Ephesians 2:1–8

- It can be more than one thing. One thing doesn't negate the other. But that doesn't mean that they're all equal.
- We are saved from our sins by the grace of God, by the mercy of God, by the love of God. To put it plainly, we are saved by God. That's the most important ingredient.
- Because without God, without his gift, there was absolutely nothing that we could do.
- We were dead in our trespasses and sins.
- Two of the most profound words in all of Scripture are given… The words, but God.

- Make no mistake about it. They're not all equal. Grace stands above them all. God stands above them all.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **How do we submit by faith to receive the gift of God? We do what He has said.**

MY NOTES