



# VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

## Weekly Bible Study - 23:01:2013

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### **Study 4: THE BELIEVER'S COMMON SALVATION**

**Text:** Jude 1:3 - "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints".

Jude declares that he "gave all diligence to write" to the saints "of the common salvation". To give all diligence implies that he considered the common salvation to be of such importance and value to merit the commitment and concentration of his careful attention to write about – in an age when writing was not as easy as it is today.

### **CONTEXT**

It is important to explore why Jude used the word "common" and what it actually means in this context. A casual reader of this verse may think that "common" is synonymous with "cheap" or something of low value; but a careful analysis of the rest of the content of the book illustrates that this is clearly not the case. The fact that Salvation is a free gift from God through Christ's atonement does not make it cheap. It is free because we could not afford the prize (Romans 3:23; 6:23), therefore God paid the high price for us. Even in natural life we notice that the most important things essential for live are given freely by God. For example, the air we all breathe is so important that no one will be able to survive for a few minutes without breathing. If we were to buy the air we breathe, many people would have died shortly after birth as neither they nor their parents would be able to afford. It is for this reason that God made air available free of charge to all. The same is true of water and salvation by faith in Christ's finished work. The believer's salvation is not cheap because it costs God His only begotten son and Christ His life to pay for the salvation of our souls. Somebody noted that it only cost God the dust of the earth to make human (Adam and Eve – Genesis 2:7), but it cost Him His only begotten son to save mankind from sin – a salient reminder that Salvation is not cheap.

Common is used in the context of "Sameness" for all beneficiaries. The believers' salvation is common because:

1. Every recipient must satisfy the same requirement of repentance from sin and faith in the sacrificial death of Christ irrespective of the age, gender, religion, race status in life, etc (I Corinthians 12:13; Mark 1:15; 16:16; John 3:3,16-19). We can only be saved on God's terms rather than by our own preferences.
2. It is available to everyone that call upon the name of the Lord (Romans 10:13)
3. There is a common route for entrance into salvation – through the straight gate, and remaining saved, requires continuing on the narrow way (Matthew 7:14).
4. It is free to both the rich and poor because Jesus has already paid for it by His own blood (I Peter 1:18,19; Luke 18:18-27)
5. Every recipient become joint heir with Christ and qualifies for equal access to God and the riches of His grace (Matthew 27:51; Romans 8:17; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 10:19; Mark 16:17,18). Ignorance of who we are in Christ has made many

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to suffer terribly under the hands of the devil because they do know nor use their rights (Hosea 4:6).

6. It grants all saved access to the same mediator (Hebrews 9:15; I John 2:1,2)
7. It adopts all the saved into the same heavenly family, where God becomes our father, Jesus our senior brother and other believers our brothers and sister in the Lord (John 20:17).
8. All beneficiaries are sealed with the same Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 4:30)
9. All recipients gets translated from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of His dear son (Colossians 1:13; John 14:1-3)
10. It is the common entrance into other works of grace like sanctification and Holy Ghost Baptism (Acts 2:39; Matthew 15:26) and have heaven as their eternal destiny.

### **CONCLUSION**

Common salvation is the believer's birthright and title deed to divine inheritance as well as essential travel documents (passport and visa) to eternal destiny with God in heaven. Recognition of its value, worth and uniqueness (i.e. can not be substituted for any human alternative) enables us to jealously guard over it and not be like:

1. Esau who despised his birthright by selling it for a plate of meal only to for ever live to regret it (Hebrews 12:16,17).
2. Pigs that trample pearls under their feet and turn to attack their owner (Matthew 7:6)
3. Sow that was washed wallowing in the mire, or dogs turning back to eat its own vomit (2 Peter 2:22).