

## **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.**

By: Dov Avnon

It is important to know what does it mean to work out your salvation. Remember it is Paul who writing it to the members of the body of Christ in this dispensation of Grace. Paul is not talking here about the famous subject "our assurance in Christ". He simple speak about working out our salvation. Make it complete.

Do not worry, if you are the winning soul to Christ type of person and al what you are interesting is to see as much as you can people get the gift of eternal life and go to heaven , Then it is only first believing that Christ is God (Romans 10:8-12) that he died for your sins en rose again for your justification. (1 cor 15:1-4). Yes it is important that people will get saved. Without be born into Gods church 1 cor. 12:13 there is no salvation. So now if we agree that salvation through the blood of Christ is the beginning of all, we can go back to our verse that say:

**work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.**

**1 – saved from wages of sin = death;**

**but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom 6:23**

**2 – Saved from the dominion of sin**

**For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Rom 6:16**

**3 – Saved from the coming of the man of sin.**

**8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 1 tess 5:8**

So remember if you want to be a saved only because you go rather to heaven and not to hell but still live the old life it is possible. Yes, I do not like to say it but saved person can still live under the dominion of sin. Look at the people at Corinth. They were saved but some lived heavy in sin.

**1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 1 cor 5:1**

**5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus 1 cor 5.**

**15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire**

**suffer for his sake;**

**29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;30 Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me.**

So salvation is by grace through faith alone but God want much more from those who are saved then just stay as a baby. God purpose in salvation Go much further that most people like. Believing Christ is one thing but no it is also growing in the spiritual life and this mean to suffer for his sake. Those who start following the Gospel that Christ gave to Paul for the Church know what suffering is.

But let's go back to the context of Philippians chapter two. We will learn here what does Paul really meant when he told you and me **“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”**.

Philippians chapter 2 King James Version

1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be

likeminded,

having the same love,

being of one accord,

of one mind.

This is maybe easy to say but hard to do.

**20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.**

Maybe those verses will give us some insight to what Paul was talking about. Many are happy with their salvation but still have different agenda then God.

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

**For all seek their own,**

**Look not every man on his own things**

Paul is talking here about not to be on EGO TRIP. SO you see with salvation the Journey just started now the working out of it.

Paul is not talking here just about changing of attitude. He talking about the changing of our mind.

EPHESIANS 2:3 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.

**EPHESIANS 4:17** This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, **in the vanity of their mind**,

EPHESIANS 4:23 And be renewed in the **spirit of your mind**;

You see just being saved does not free us from **the vanity of our mind**. We must work now out our salvation

So who will be our sample ? Who can help us now to get our mind straight as it should be.

### **5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**

Now keep in mind the following sample how God became a man. In this way you will learn how not to have ago trip. Easy to say hard to do but this is to work out our salvation.

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9

- being in the form of God
- thought it not robbery to be equal with God
- made himself of no reputation
- took upon him the form of a servant
- was made in the likeness of men
- found in fashion as a man
- became obedient unto death
- death of the cross.

You see Paul is talking here about Christ being man, to help us understand that if God left His heaven to become one of us. We should have it always in mind in order not to think above what we really are. Sinners who were saved only by Gods grace. We were dead in sin and if we now alive it is on because of God's grace. This why we find the: **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**.

**with fear and trembling.** – Our salvation was total free but it is only because God did it for us. So on our side we should

**work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.**

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Look what kind of Position Christ have. No one will escape from confessing that he is the Lord. So if God himself became one of us - **found in fashion as a man.** We too must work out our own salvation .

12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

**EPHESIANS 6:5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling. in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;**

Dear reader , It is all about OBIDIANCS

Salvation is our first obedience to God and this why Christ called Paul.

**5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name: Rom. 1 ROMANS 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith**

So when we read **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.** We know now that it is about the obedience of the saved person to God during his live on this earth.

**his good pleasure**

**13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:**

**5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. Eph. 1**

I just want to let you know that when God saved you it was for HIS glory. The purpose of salvation is that the saved one will PRAISE the glory of God's grace in his life. It is like to be a living advertisement for some one. So a saved person who is NOT working out his salvation and stay all his life a baby is not fulfilling the main purpose of his calling.

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

**2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? 4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? 1 cor 3**

So in close I can only pray that this study will help us to understand what does it means :

**work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**

for God is the Glory – Dov Avnon – The Netherlands