

Have You Been Dealt a Bad Hand?

2 Timothy 1:8-11

Part I – Salvation

Introduction:

- A. The metaphor of a card game has been used to describe life.
 - 1. When dealing out five cards from a standard deck, there are over _____ million possible hands.
 - 2. In any card game there is an element of l_____ involved.
- B. Is life really like a card game?
 - 1. Do bad things happen to us because we have been dealt a bad hand?
 - 2. Have you ever said in response to some kind of adversity, “God, what did I do to deserve this?”
- C. In 2 Tim 1:8-11, there are three hands that were dealt to Paul and Timothy.
 - 1. The hand of s_____
 - 2. The hand of suffering.
 - 3. The hand of service.
- D. What is the MAIN thing in this life on earth for the believer?
 - 1. Is it marriage, family, job, retirement, wealth, etc?
 - 2. It is your r_____ to Jesus which you are to intertwine in the above areas of life.
 - 3. So, is your life a bad hand?

Who saved us? (v. 9a)

God has saved us and called us with a holy calling

- A. The answer is simple (G_____ saved us through Jesus), but we may not grasp what He really saved us from.
 - 1. We were b_____ as children of wrath just like the rest of the world (Eph 2:3).
 - a. A little child does not need to be t_____ how to do wrong but how to do right.
 - b. God’s required response to sin is w_____.
 - 2. God’s wrath must punish sin in the Lake of F_____ (Matt 3:12; Rev 20:15)
- B. Salvation is the action of God of saving us from His w_____

How were we saved? (vv. 9b, 10a)

Not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus.

- A. First we are told how we were NOT saved – Not by our w_____
1. There is nothing we can do to d_____ salvation.
 2. All of us have sinned (Rom 3:23) and deserve its p_____ which is death.
 - a. Eternal physical death – the permanent separation of the spirit from the b_____ (see Jms 2:26).
 - b. Eternal spiritual death – the permanent separation of the spirit from the Lord’s Spirit (see Eph 2:1; I Cor 6:17).
- B. Then we are told how we were saved – by God’s own purpose and g_____ .
1. Eph 2:9 tells us that by grace we have been saved, not by works so that there is no room for anyone to boast. God gets _____ the credit.
 2. God’s saving grace is granted to us ____ Christ Jesus - Salvation cannot be apart from Christ (see Jn 14:6)
- C. This plan of salvation was hidden from the world until the a_____ of Jesus on earth.
1. This plan was not anything new. From all e_____, God had planned that grace would only be granted IN Christ to us.
 2. This plan was not made known until Jesus came.

What did Jesus do to become our Savior? (v. 10b)

He abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

- A. Jesus suffered the penalty of sin on the c_____ by becoming sin and therefore receiving the wrath of God (2 Cor 5:21).
1. He suffered s_____ death (Matt 27:46)
 2. He suffered p_____ death (Matt 27:50)
- B. Jesus abolished death by r_____ from the dead (see Jn 11:25,26)
1. Jesus said, *I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even if he dies.* – this is talking about eternal p_____ life even though we experience temporary death.
 2. *And everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.* – this is talking about eternal spiritual life.

When did God save us? (vv. 9a, 10c)

He saved us and called us...when Jesus brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

- A. God had to make us realize our need of Christ

1. Rom 3:10-12 – none of us are g_____ ; none of us seek God on our own.
 2. Is 53:6 – all of us have turned to our own w_____.
 3. Jn 6:44 – no one can come to Christ unless the Father d_____ that person to Christ.
- B. God interacts with the gospel message to reveal this need
1. Rom 10:17 – faith comes by h_____ the word about Christ.
 2. Rom 1:16 – the gospel is the p_____ of God for salvation.

Conclusion:

- A. Salvation is not a c_____ hand
1. God s_____ the deck and deliberately saved you.
 2. God changed your heart and granted the f_____ needed to trust Christ to be your God and Savior (Phil 1:29).
- B. Look at your life with all its mess and t_____ the Lord for saving you.
1. The bad stuff you experience and will experience is not your life.
 2. Jesus is your life (Col 3:4).