

JESUS SAVES – 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

INTRODUCTION

1. There are some hymns we sing that are so easy to sing and understand and yet can still give us profound and challenging teaching and encouragement.
2. The hymn “Jesus Saves” is a great example of this.
3. All of us who are children of God know the simple truth that Jesus saves (**John 14:6**).
4. And all of us who are children of God should be grateful and rejoice in our salvation (**Phil. 4:4**).
5. But how many of us still feel a fervent obligation and urgency to share that message (**Acts 17:30-31**)?
6. Let us consider this hymn that reminds us of our need to share the good news of the gospel.

DISCUSSION

I. BEAR THE NEWS TO EVERY LAND

- A. *“We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Bear the news to ev'ry land, Climb the steeps and cross the waves; Onward! 'tis our Lord's command; Jesus saves! Jesus saves!”*
- B. Before Jesus was born, an angel told Joseph that the child his wife Mary had conceived was coming to save people from their sins (**Matt. 1:21**).
- C. And there has never been any better news than that God fulfilled His promises in sending the Lord to save humanity from sin (**Luke 2:10-11; John 3:17**).
- D. But the opening stanza reminds us that the good news of the gospel is not just for us to hear and rejoice in.
- E. It is not just one nation or one group of people in some specific place and time, but it is for all people in all places for all time (**Rom. 1:16-17**).
- F. Therefore, as the people of God, we need to spread the good news everywhere we can and support others to do the same (**Rom. 10:13-15**).
- G. As the song says, this is our Lord’s command.
- H. If we love Jesus and believe that only He can save, then we must share the good news (**Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16**)!

II. TELL THE SINNERS FAR & WIDE

- A. *“Waft it on the rolling tide: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Tell to sinners far and wide: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Sing, ye islands of the sea; Echo back, ye ocean caves; Earth shall keep her jubilee: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!”*
- B. The significance of this message for all people is picked up again in the second stanza.
- C. The imagery of the message being carried by the ocean waves and the islands of the sea reflects the need for God’s glorious work in Jesus to be spread to all nations (**Ps. 96:1-9**).
- D. And while creation doesn’t reveal the message of the gospel, it does announce that there is a God (**Rom. 1:20; Ps. 19:1-6; Rom. 10:17-18**).
- E. Jesus has charged His disciples to go forth and let everyone know that the God who made the heavens and the earth will hold them accountable for their sin (**Rom. 3:23**).
- F. And while there is time, they should seek His mercy by trust and obedience to the gospel of Christ (**John 14:6; Rom. 1:5; 16:25-27**).

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- G. The imagery of the Jubilee, the celebration that happened every fiftieth year under the Law of Moses, involved not only a rest for the land, but also the freeing of slaves (**Lev. 25:8-10, 39-52**).
- H. And just as God delivered those from slavery of old, in Jesus He has provided a way for all to be redeemed from bondage to sin (**Rom. 6:16-23; Gal. 5:1**).

III. JESUS SAVES BY HIS DEATH & ENDLESS LIFE

- A. *Sing above the battle strife: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! By His death and endless life: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Sing it softly through the gloom, When the heart for mercy craves; Sing in triumph o'er the tomb: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!"*
- B. But how did God bring about this salvation in Jesus?
- C. The third stanza reminds us that our salvation is only possible because of what Jesus did for us in His death and resurrection.
- D. From the beginning, there has been a great spiritual battle that humanity has gotten caught up in (**Eph. 6:10-12; John 8:44; Gen. 3**).
- E. But Jesus took the fight to the enemy and by His death and resurrection, He has gained the victory (**1 Cor. 15:1-4, 20-26**).
- F. So now, even though we still face temptation, suffering, and even death, in Christ we don't have to weep and mourn like others do (**1 Thess. 4:13**).
- G. Because we know that since He lives, by faith we too will have victory over sin and death and enjoy eternal life (**Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 5:4**).
- H. This is just one more reason we need to let the world know that salvation is only found in Jesus (**Acts 4:12; Heb. 7:16, 25**).

IV. LET THE NATIONS NOW REJOICE

- A. *"Give the winds a mighty voice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Let the nations now rejoice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Shout salvation full and free, Highest hills and deepest caves; This our song of victory: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!"*
- B. In the last stanza we are reminded of the great joy that comes from knowing the salvation that is found in Christ Jesus.
- C. The Bible speaks about the great joy in heaven over the salvation of just one sinner who repents and turns to God (**Luke 15:7, 10, 20-24**).
- D. And again, in this stanza we are reminded that this salvation is for all the nations.
- E. No matter who you are or where you are from, anyone can call on the Lord and be saved (**Acts 2:21, 36-38**).
- F. And then we can shout and rejoice, because Christ has given us the victory (**1 Cor. 15:54-57; Rev. 7:9-12; Ps. 96:10-13**).
- G. Will we join the mighty chorus and proclaim the glad news that Jesus saves (**1 John 4:14**)?

CONCLUSION

1. God's desire is that all would be saved and there are many who need the gospel (**1 Tim. 2:4**).
2. And Jesus commands us to go and share the good news with others (**Matt. 28:18-20**)
3. What will we do with the message we've been entrusted with?
4. Will we keep the good news to ourselves and say nothing (**Mark 16:8; cp. Matt. 5:15**)?
5. Or will we go and share the good news that Jesus saves with everyone that we can (**1 Cor. 9:16**)?