

## Salvation

Let us analyze the manner in which we receive the grace of salvation and the inheritance it represents. Perhaps it may help some to better understand the awesome reality of this blessed gift.

Suppose we view this in the earthly terms of a last will and testament of an extremely wealthy benefactor who, it has been said, has named us, as beneficiaries in his will. His only stipulation is that we pledge to believe that he has done this as a no-strings-attached free gift, and that we truly believe in the truth of a particular historical event. What a strange provision! But we must remember he is quite eccentric, for his ways are not our ways.

We study the historical record, and we determine that it is true. (It's actually in a book called the Bible, of which we have proof that He Himself wrote.) Therefore, upon pledging that we believe in the truth of the historical event and in the fact that this is truly a free gift, we become bonafide beneficiaries of this incredible wealth, you might say a wealth so great that it will outlast everyone of us, undiminished, throughout eternity! Now again, we did nothing to earn this; we simply have been selected because we unequivocally believe. In fact, trying to earn this gift could be grounds for disqualification, because of our pledge. We are, however, expected to express gratitude through love, repentance and a changed life as evidence of genuine belief.

As we mull this over, we realize a couple of sobering facts. First, a will is of little value to anyone until the testator dies! We know this from both man's law and even more assuredly from God's law as in Hebrews 9:16,17, wherein we read "for where a testament is there must also of necessity be death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator lives." That's a bummer! The gift giver must die before we can claim the promise and before we can receive the gift. Suppose He lives longer than we do?

We must also be greatly concerned as to the integrity and faithfulness of the executor of the will, the one who opens the document, reads it and then proceeds to implement its provisions. The executor must be above all possible temptation, immune to corruption, pure and ever truthful. Unless he is all of these things he could easily cheat us out of the inheritance. So, therefore, must we be concerned as was John in Revelation 5:3, 4 as he wept because there was no man in neither heaven nor earth or under the earth worthy or able to break the seals and open the book, to reveal, and implement its content. But just as John was relieved from his fears, when the “lion of Judah” the “lamb as He had been slain”, our blessed Lord Jesus Christ broke the seals and opened the book, so also do we have Him as our Executor to assure that we will receive the full measure of our inheritance, this blessed grace of salvation. He was and is our Testator, the Man Jesus, who already died so that His will could come into force. But having arisen from the dead as only He could, our honorable Executor lives and will deliver to all believers His incredible promise.

If He has accepted you, if you are named in His last will and testament, rest assured, everything has been accurately, precisely and irrevocably arranged for your eternal security!