

PART 2

Chapter 4 – The Plan of Salvation (Source)

https://egwwritings-a.akamaihd.net/pdf/en_1SP.pdf

Once again, Sister White, observes a heavenly Jesus as a mortal, for only a mortal can have expressions revealing emotions. He is so sad at the death sentence given Adam's family. Her 'accompanying angel' explains Jesus has gone into the presence of the Father for "close converse." It takes three such "close converses" before Jesus emerged, his countenance changed. "His countenance was calm, free from all perplexity and trouble, and shone with benevolence and loveliness, such as words cannot express," the prophetess relates. Her next statements bear repeating word for word:

"He then made known to the angelic host that a way of escape had been made for lost man. He told them that he had been pleading with his Father, and had offered to give his life a ransom, and take the sentence of death upon himself, that through him man might find pardon; **that through the merits of his blood, and obedience to the law of God, they could have the favor of God**, and be brought into the beautiful garden, and eat of the fruit of the tree of life."

This is a False Gospel

If ever there were a clear statement promulgating grace *plus* works to earn salvation, this is it.

In the introductory chapters of the book of Romans, the Apostle Paul explains how both Jews and Gentiles fail to keep either the written Law or the Law of conscience written in their hearts. He then concludes how man is justified:

*... Because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin...For we maintain that a man is justified by faith **apart from** works of the Law (Romans 3:20, 28).*

The Galatians were intent on preaching a Gospel which was a mix of grace plus works, like the SDA church. Paul calls it a perversion of the Gospel which he preached. Such preachers are cursed of God (Gal. 1:6-8). He reiterates:

*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be **justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.** (Gal. 2:16).*

Justifying faith is a living faith, not dead, devoid of works. It is a faith which places trust, hope and confidence in Christ's perfect Law-keeping, not in one's personal Law-keeping.....whatever that may be.

Justifying faith is the miraculous gift of God, for it is impossible for man dead in sins and trespasses to love and obey, with a living faith, that which he naturally despises and opposes.

It is the creative omnipotent gracious gift of God which raises us from spiritual death to spiritual eternal life:

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them (Ezekiel 36:26-27).

And you hath he quickened [made alive, regenerated], who were dead in trespasses and sins;

² Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience (Ephesians 2:1-2).

Saving faith originates in saving grace, which is the gift of God, according to His sovereign will:

¹⁵ For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

¹⁶ So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Neither the will of man nor the works of man have anything to contribute to God's sovereign eternal will, for *He worketh all things after the counsel of his own will* (Ephesians 1:11).

How different is biblical teaching from SDA teaching!