

# **The Rescue**

**1-14-18**

Galatians 1:3–5 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup> **who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,** <sup>5</sup> to whom glory forever and ever. Amen.

**From the very beginning of the church, we see that Christ rescues us from this present evil age by forgiving our sins. Therefore here at BCC, we have a foundational verse.**

2Cor.5:21 (NIV)

**God made HIM** who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in HIM we might become the righteousness of God.

**The Rescue is Not a deliverance “from presence” of the evil age but a rescue “from the power” of the evil age. This helps us understand our function in the world we live in.**

1 John 5:19 (ESV)

We know that we are from God, and **the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.**

**Truth! This present age is evil and rescue is necessary!**

**Truth! This Rescue through forgiveness was always in God’s mind. This rescue is an OT promise.**

Deuteronomy 7:6 (ESV)

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

**The rescue was God's plan from the beginning to be ultimately fulfilled in Christ just as is says in Galatians: It was the Lord Jesus Christ **who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.****

**Since this is central to our Christian faith, let us look at the details of this rescue. How does this rescue happen and why is it necessary?**

Ephesians 2:1–2 (ESV)

And **you were dead** in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, **following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.**

**“You were dead!” This is the issue, which expresses the need! We were spiritually dead following the evil prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the present evil age.**

**How are the spiritually dead following the evil prince of the air?**

Ephesians 2:3 (ESV)

**(The evil spirit is at work)** among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, **carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.**

**TRUTH!!** People separated from Christ unwittingly participate with the evil prince of the power of the air by carrying out the **desires of the body and the mind** and are **by nature children of wrath.**

**Without Christ, we were hopelessly locked into this evil age – BUT GOD RESCUED US!**

Ephesians 2:4–5 (ESV)

**But God,** being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even **when we were dead** in our trespasses, **made us alive** together with Christ.

**The Rescue! WE WERE DEAD GOD MADE US ALIVE!!**  
**TRUTH! The issue is not that we were bad. The issue is that we were dead.** Now we are alive! We didn't simply change our thinking. We were made spiritually alive with an intimate relationship with God. Now we look on life, the world, and eternity with living eyes empowered by the Holy Spirit.

**The Rescue is being transferred from One Kingdom to another Kingdom yet remaining in this physical world. How does this work?**

Colossians 1:13–14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> He has **delivered us from the domain of darkness** and **transferred us to the kingdom** of his beloved Son,  
<sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**The Rescue is a change of Kingdoms.** Kingdom literally means reign. We trust Christ and we go from the kingdom of darkness or the reign of darkness to the kingdom of light or the reign of light. **Standing in one spot, we change kingdoms!**

**Truth! One day Jesus will return and remove all evil and physically remake this world, BUT UNTIL THAT TIME** the spiritual reality of the kingdom of Christ is invading this dark world controlled by the Evil One rescuing people bound in the dominion of darkness.

**The Kingdom – The Age of the Holy Spirit – is a present reality! The KINGDOM is the REIGN of God now through Jesus Christ.**

**Jesus shows us a beautiful example of how this current Kingdom operates. This is the functioning of the reign of God now in the age of the Holy Spirit!**

Matthew 12:28 (ESV)

But if it is **by the Spirit of God** that I cast out demons, then **the kingdom of God has come upon you.**

**This is God's kingdom or God's reign at work! This is an example of The Holy Spirit working through Believers. This is God's rescued people at work! Wherever God's people are, God's kingdom is present because Christ is present in them through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.**

**The Rescue Complete and the Kingdom established!**

2Cor.5:21 (NIV)

**God made HIM** who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in HIM we might become the righteousness of God.

**The Kingdom at work!  
Reign of God at work!**

**Prophetic Team**  
*Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.*