

greatness of His love. But this is not all. We are told in verse 7, that He had a purpose beyond – and we may say, included in this. It was for the glory of God through the eternal ages. *That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace, in His kindness towards us.* One of the results of our salvation will be to cause the angels to utter the praise of our Redeemer and Savior through eternal ages. John in his Apocalyptic vision saw the angels in countless multitudes joining with all creation in ascribing honor and glory and blessing to the Lamb that was slain. Such will be the consummation of His work of salvation.

3. IT IS ALL OF GRACE (vs. 8-10).

The remaining verses of this section are to show that the work is His alone, and is all of grace, and not of works. Twice does he affirm this. When speaking of the first step in the work—our quickening from death—he stops to say in parenthesis, as if eager to keep it to the front, “By grace are ye saved.”

And again in connection with the completion of the work as it is displayed to the wondering universe, he repeats: *for by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.* It is not the faith alone that is the gift of God. The original will not allow this interpretation. The gift of God is the whole work of salvation, including all the details. To strengthen this he adds: *Not of works, lest any man should boast.* This reminds us of the strenuous language of Romans and Galatians, where he insists so forcibly that human works play no part in salvation. Grace from its very nature, cannot