

Hebrews 5:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Analysis

'Being made perfect' (Greek 'teleiotheis') means brought to completion or fully qualified for His mission, not moral improvement. 'Author of eternal salvation' (Greek 'aitios soterias aionias') designates Christ as the source and cause of salvation that lasts forever. Salvation is 'unto all them that obey him'—not earning salvation by obedience but evidencing genuine faith through obedient response.

Historical Context

The completion of Christ's earthly work through death, resurrection, and ascension qualified Him to be the eternal High Priest. His priesthood, unlike Aaron's, brings eternal rather than temporary salvation.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How is obedience to Christ evidence of genuine saving faith in your life?
2. What does eternal salvation mean for your security in Christ today?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	τελειωθεὶς	ἐγένετο	τοῖς	ὑπακούουσιν	αὐτῷ	πᾶσιν
And	being made perfect	he became	G3588	them that obey	him	unto all
G2532	G5048	G1096		G5219	G846	G3956
αῖτιος	σωτηρίας	αἰωνίου				
the author	salvation	of eternal				
G159	G4991	G166				

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 12:2 (Parallel theme): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 9:15 (Eternal Life): And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 2:10 (Salvation): For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Hebrews 9:12 (Eternal Life): Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Acts 5:32 (Parallel theme): And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

1 Peter 1:22 (Parallel theme): Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Daniel 9:24 (Eternal Life): Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Hebrews 11:8 (Parallel theme): By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Romans 1:5 (Parallel theme): By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Romans 2:8 (Parallel theme): But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,