

Salvation Presupposes Danger

The gospel is *good news* from heaven, or *glad tidings* to guilty, perishing sinners; but this presupposes the truth of heavy tidings, of alarming news of impending wrath and deserved condemnation: for salvation is not needed by those who are in no danger; nor can any one need to be saved from the wrath of a righteous God, who did not justly deserve it.

As salvation presupposes danger, so no one can see his want of it, till he is convinced of the *reality* of his danger; and in proportion to his sense of the *greatness* of that danger, and of the ruinous and fatal consequences of not obtaining salvation, will be his *earnestness* in seeking it, and his gratitude for its being granted.

Salvation by *grace* must imply, that our danger was the consequence of *guilt*; and, therefore, as we must be convinced of our guilt, before we can realize our need of it; so our admiration of the *riches* of grace, displayed in our deliverance from deserved condemnation, will be excited, in proportion to the sense we entertain of the *greatness* of our guilt...

(Serious Remarks on the Different Representations of Evangelical Doctrine by The Professed Friends of the Gospel, Bristol: Printed by J. G. Fuller, 1817, 8, e-book)