

By grace – through faith.

Part 1 of 31 from "Christ our Righteousness".

By Carl Oluf Rosenius.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God”. Ephesians 2:8.

Thousands of people have wondered, that the little word ‘faith` has got so great space in the Bible. And they have wondered that our salvation must be so closely connected with the faith. Yes, many have become both offended and indignant at this.

But as a *‘stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall`* the word is there – firm and unshakably, because it has its foundation in God’s eternal council to our salvation.

God has from eternity decided – and in his word revealed, that his only begotten Son was to take the whole work of salvation upon himself. And that salvation, therefore, must be granted to us, for nothing, as a gift.

So we don’t need to do anything to deserve salvation or be worthy of it. We can quite simply accept it as it is: a gift which God grants us freely and for nothing.

But God grants us this gift as words and promises, and, therefore, we can only receive it when we listen and believe.

Saving faith is that we receive the gift in a way, that agrees with the way in which it has been granted.

It is granted us as a gift, and it must, therefore, be received as a gift.

It is granted us through words, and it must, therefore, be accepted by faith.

The only thing, we have to do, is to listen and make room for the Word in our hearts and consciences.