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In Trust With The Gospel

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Enduring to The End

But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Matt 24:13

3 questions need to be asked regarding this text.

The end of what? Saved from what? Is endurance consistent with eternal salvation by grace?

Did the individual who was alive when this was written have to endure to the end of time? No. This makes no sense.

Verse 14 speaks of the end coming after the gospel is proclaimed in all the world. This further helps us rule out the end of time, because Paul declares this fulfilled in Col 1:23 and Col 1:6, and Rom 10:18. He says the end will come once the gospel is proclaimed in all the world.

Or were they expected to endure to the end of their life. Again I say no, because it violates the context of the passage and is inconsistent with eternal salvation by grace. Endurance implies activity or work. The text is conditioned upon endurance. Therefore it cannot be eternal salvation.

Context strongly suggest it was the end or completion of the age that is under consideration. The end of the Jewish economy which culminated in the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. The time of the end, not the end of time.

So what would those who endured be saved from? Eternal Hell? I think Acts 2:40 gives us the answer. The salvation under consideration is from the wrath of God against the untoward generation (national Israel) which would be poured out against them for the blood shed of the righteous prophets, and the crucifixion of Jesus which would be required of that generation. (see Matt 23:25-36) So the salvation would be from incurring the severe vengeance and wrath of God poured out against Israel. Not eternal Hell.

Temporal salvation is conditional. Not eternal salvation, It is by the grace of God plus NOTHING.