

SALVATION

1. The meaning of salvation
 - A. Salvation represents the whole work of God by which He rescues man from eternal ruin and the doom of sin, and bestows on him the riches of His grace, including eternal life now and eternal glory in heaven.
 - B. Salvation is a work of God in behalf of man, and not a work of man in behalf of God. Man has no part in his salvation except for his faith at a point in time in the person and work of Jesus Christ.
 - C. There will come a time on earth when all men will know the Lord, from the least to the greatest, Jeremiah 31:34.
 - D. Salvation is offered to all men for Christ died for all men in unlimited atonement, 1 John 2:2.
 - E. The salvation of man is the overall purpose of God the Father, and includes every phase of His gracious work. Once a person is spiritually born again through faith in Christ alone then God the Holy Spirit baptizes that person into union with Christ, indwells him, and seals him with eternal life.
2. Salvation is God's remedy for sin. Romans 6:23 and Romans 3:23.
 - A. Sin is sin whether it is committed by the heathen, pagan, civilized, cultured or uncultured, educated or non-education, regenerate or unregenerate regardless of race, color, or creed.
 - 1) Sin is a violation of the holiness of God.
 - 2) Sin is always wrong, no matter what the excuse.
 - B. Sin can only be cured by the work of Christ on the cross who paid for our personal sins by being our substitute and suffering our punishment.
 - 1) In the Old Testament they sacrificed animals in anticipation of the work (cross) of Christ.
 - 2) The saints of the Old Testament were atoned for, or sins covered up, until the cross (Exodus 29:36 with Hebrews 10:11-18).
 - 3) Divine forgiveness is not an act of leniency, rather, God requires a perfect sacrifice to meet His demands that sin be paid for.

- 4) In the Old Testament the priest offered sacrifices to cover up the sins of the people until they could be forgiven (Leviticus 4:20, 26, 31, 35, 5:10, 13, 16, 18, 19:22; Numbers 15:25, 26, 28).
- 5) After the work of Christ on the cross our sins are forgiven, Colossians 1:14; Ephesians 1:7.
- 6) The term “blood of Christ” is a term in the Bible which refers to Christ’s work of propitiation, reconciliation and redemption. Propitiation is Godward; reconciliation is manward; redemption is sinward.
- 7) In the Old Testament animal blood covered sins, or remitted them, says Hebrews 9:22, but animal blood did not pay for sins.
- 8) Jesus’ blood in His veins or coming out of His wrists, back, head, feet, or side did not pay for our sins! Isaiah 53:10-12 says that His soul was poured out as an offering for sin. His soul was bearing the penalty for our sins, for He was being judged.
- 9) The physical blood of Jesus proved He was human, proved He was going thru tremendous, unparalleled suffering, proved His resolve to follow thru on the Father’s plan for His life, among many other things, but His physical blood did not pay for our sins.
- 10) Forgiveness imposes no burden upon the sinner; we are forgiven and justified Christ, 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18.

3. Salvation before and after the cross.

- A. Before the cross dealing with sin was thru atonement by means of the blood of animals, Hebrews 10:4.
- B. In this way God passed over sins until Christ came and paid for them, Romans 3:25; Acts 17:30; Romans 3:26.
- C. After the cross man only needs to believe in Christ as personal Savior, by personally trusting His perfect work for salvation and eternal life, 1 Peter 2:24.

4. Tenses of salvation:

- A. Past tense – means a completed work for one who has believed in Christ,

1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 2:15; Ephesians 2:5, 8. So perfect is God's divine work that the saved person is said to be saved eternally and safe forever, John 5:24, 10:28-29, Romans 8:1.

- B. Present tense – means that salvation has benefits in time for the Christian, helps overcome his flesh desires or Old Sin Nature, Romans 6:14, 8:2, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Galatians 2:19- 20, Philippians 1:19, 2:12-13, 2 Thessalonians 2:13.
- C. Future tense – means salvation is the key to providing eternal life in God's presence, Romans 8:29, 13:11, 1 Peter 1:5, 1 John 3:2. This aspect of salvation is yet to be accomplished for we will have to be face to face with the Lord in resurrection bodies before it is completed.

5. Salvation is the finished work of Christ.

- A. John 19:30 Jesus said, "It is finished" on the cross to indicate His completed work. It is not an ongoing work, it is a completed work!
- B. Jesus died for the personal sins of man, John 3:16; Hebrews 2:9.
- C. He provided redemption, 1 Timothy 2:6, reconciliation, 2 Corinthians 5:19, and propitiation, 1 John 2:2, for all men.
- D. The fact that Christ died does not automatically save all men, but provides the ground on which God the Father is free to save those who put their faith in Christ's work on the cross.

6. Salvation is by faith alone.

- A. There are 115 passages that declare the sinner is saved by believing, and 35 passages that declare the sinner is saved by faith, which is a synonym for believing.
- B. Intellectual agreement is not believing, neither is emotional stirring of the person an indication of salvation.
- C. Believing is the opposite of doing.
- D. Believe and pray, believe and confess, believe and be baptized, believe and receive tongues, are examples of false gospels and an attempt to add to grace.

- E. Another false gospel is “accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, for if He is not Lord of all then He is not Lord at all.” No one can accept Him as Lord until after they have had some time studying the Bible and submitting their lives to His Word—the mind of Christ, Acts 16:31; Romans 1:16; 3:22; 4:5, 24; 5:1, 10:4, Galatians 3:22, 2 Corinthians 2:16.