

Salvation

DEFINITION OF SALVATION:

“The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness. Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts and processes: as justification, redemption, grace, propitiation, imputation, forgiveness, sanctification, and glorification”

C. I. Scofield

GOD’S PLAN FOR MAN:

In God’s image and likeness man was created to love and be loved and to rule and have dominion over the earth and every living creature. In addition to unlimited divine provision and eternal fellowship with God, his Father, man received something unique in all creation: the freedom of choice or free will. God created a free being, a son, who would love and worship Him by choice; yet, man turned from Him in an informed and willful act of disobedience. By transgressing God’s law, sin and death entered the human experience [SIN: The willful act of disobedience to the will and laws of God (1 John 3:4)]. Forfeiting his timeless state or eternal life for one of certain death, man faced eternal separation from God. Since the fall of the first human family, mankind continued to search for the mystery to life’s meaning (Ecclesiastes 12:9-14). Mankind hungered to find the truth that fulfills the inner man (John 6: 35-40, Matthew 5:6)... man struggled to find the plan for his destiny (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV).

GOD MAKES THE FIRST BLOOD SACRIFICE:

The first knowledge and encounter with evil came when Adam and Eve first disobeyed God. They instinctively covered their nakedness and hid from God, an acknowledgment of guilt and their sinful state. God, the loving Father, made a provision to reinstate fellowship and cover their sin and shame, ***“The Lord God made clothing out of skins for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.”*** Genesis 3:21 (The first killing or death recorded in scripture). God slew His lesser creation to cover the sin of man. This sacrifice and the shedding of blood, was a foreshadowing of the greater sacrifice that was to come. God would not merely cover sin, but cleanse man totally from sin. Through the incarnation of God’s sinless son, His death on the cross and His resurrection and victory over sin and death, man is able to return to the Father’s loving arms.

GOD’S PLAN FOR REINSTATEMENT/REDEMPTION OF MAN:

Because God’s love for mankind was so great, He put into motion a plan for redemption, a plan that would reinstate man to his original union with God.

“I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel..”

Genesis 3:15

In this prophetic utterance, God vows to place “hostility” (that is a forceful power of opposition) between the powers of darkness and His creation, man. A blood sacrifice would be required to reinstate His beloved man.

GOD REQUIRES BLOOD SACRIFICE FOR SALVATION:

Just as Abel offered up a blood sacrifice (the firstling of his flock) to provide salvation for his family (Genesis 4:4)... Moses offered the blood sacrifice of an unblemished lamb, placing its blood on each believer's door so that the death angel would pass over the households in order to save the whole nation of Israel (Genesis 12:3-13, Hebrews 11:28)... so the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, was shed. The sacrifice of the sinless Son of God provided the way of salvation for the whole world. *"Without shedding of blood is no remission (of sin)"*

Hebrews 9:22

*A thorough study of Hebrews 9:22-28 is recommended.

JESUS IS THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S LAW OF SACRIFICE:

The plan of redemption was spoken through the prophets.

"Yet He Himself bore our sicknesses, and He carried our pains; but we in turn regarded Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was pierced because of our transgressions, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on Him, and we are healed by His wounds"

Isaiah 53:4-5 HCSB

"...All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all. He is brought as a Lamb to the slaughter..."

Jeremiah 31:33-34

"He (Jesus) said to them, "This is what I told you, while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the prophets, and the Psalms. Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day: and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Luke 24:44-47

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Hebrews 9:14

"Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things He suffered; and being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him."

Hebrews 5:8-9

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BORN-AGAIN:

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you..."

Ezekiel 36:26

In John 3:7, Jesus said: "Marvel not that I say unto you, you must be born-again." Jesus did not speak of the "flesh or body" being "born-again," but instead He spoke of the rebirth of man's spirit by the power of the Holy Spirit. "For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold...but by the precious blood of Christ, ... being born-again, not of corruptible seed, but incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."

Excerpts from 1 Peter 1:18-23

By believing in God's plan of the sacrifice of sinless Jesus as recorded in the Holy Bible, and His shedding of blood for us, we regain purity to walk in God's light, and receive God's power by which we overcome sin, death, and all evil. By this we are re-established in right standing with God. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we are once again COMPLETE IN HIM.

1 John 2:5 NIV

He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.

1 John 4:17

AMAZING GRACE:

Grace: the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners.

The words of the psalmist David reveals our neediness before God.

"What can I give Thee, for everything is of Thy Hand?"

Ephesians points the only way to salvation:

"For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift"

Ephesians 2:8 HCSB

STEPS TO SALVATION:

If you were to die this very day, could you confidently pass from this life assured of your eternal destination and rewards?

ACKNOWLEDGE: Salvation is found in Jesus alone.

"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved."

Act 4:12 HCSB

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me."

John 14:6

REPENT: I am a sinner in need of salvation.

"For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance [a]without regret, leading to salvation..."

2 Corinthians 7:10

"No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as well"

Luke 13:3 HCSB

CONFESS & BELIEVE:

"Therefore, everyone who will acknowledge Me before men, I will also acknowledge him before My Father in heaven."

Matthew 10:32

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9

"8 On the contrary, what does it say? The message is near you, in your mouth and in your heart. This is the message of faith that we proclaim: 9 if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 With the heart one believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses, resulting in salvation. 11 Now the Scripture says, No one who believes on Him will be put to shame, 12 for there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, since the same Lord of all is rich to all who call on Him. 13 For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:8-13 HCSB

RECEIVE: Forgiveness and eternal life are available to all who place their trust and belief in the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus.

"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

John 1:12

PRAYER OF SALVATION:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I have just received the Good News that you love me and that through your life, death, and resurrection you have made a way for me to be free from sin, guilt and death. I repent of my sins and turn from my ways to your ways. I ask for your forgiveness. Come into my heart Lord Jesus. Be my Savior and my Lord. Write my name in the Lamb's Book of Life and remember me when you return. I thank you for making me a new creation and giving me a new heart, new spirit and a new life in you. I know I am a member of the family of God and I am restored to a right relationship with God, our Father. I receive all that you have to offer me. Send the Holy Spirit to teach me all that you would have me know and be. Give me the power to live a victorious, overcoming life that is pleasing to you. Amen

WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR YOU:

Jesus washed away your sins through the power of His blood and are clean before God.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things become new."
2 Corinthians 5:17

*"Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool."* Isaiah 1:18

You are now a family member of a loving Father.

"Dear friends, we are God's children now" 1 John 3:2 HCSB

And, "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."
2 Corinthians 6:18 HCSB

God has a plan for your life with Him.

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

God loves YOU and wants to fellowship with YOU.

"For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.."
1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 HCSB

Jesus will return for YOU.

"so also the Messiah, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him."

Hebrews 9:28 HCSB

"This is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and the One You have sent-Jesus Christ.."

John 17:3 HCSB



Visible Light
MINISTRIES

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by Domenic and Charlie Fusco