

What Is Salvation ?

II Thessalonians 1: 3-10 ; Romans 5: 3-11

INTRODUCTION :

Slide # 1

A. When we begin talking about salvation, not everyone has the same concept.

1. People referred to being physically rescued as being saved.

Slide # 2

Matt. 8: 25 – And they came to Him and woke Him, saying,
“Save us, Lord; we are perishing!”

2. Many today confuse being saves physically with being saved spiritually.

- a. I was in a terrible accident, but I was not injured; I know God saved me.

Slide # 3

- b. I had a heart attack. I was dead. I saw Jesus and He saved me so ...

Slide # 4

3. Many more confuse emotional experiences with God saving them.

- a. Their heart was pricked by a dynamic sermon.

Slide # 5

- b. I was so depressed I wanted to die, but knelt beside my bed and I prayed for God to come into my heart. He saved me and gave me peace.

Slide # 6

B. The confusion is amplified by the fact that many denominations that espouse Christianity teach very different things about salvation.

1. Some teach that saved people are healthy, wealthy and wise.
2. Others teach that it is like winning the lottery; God chooses selected winners.
3. There are those who teach that salvation is imposed upon all who ever believed.
4. Just as bad, there are those who teach that salvation is a reward for a good life.

C. How is one to know which one is correct ?

1. All of these site bible passages that they claim teach their position.

2. This lesson will seek to do as the Christians in Berea did in the first century.

Slide # 7

Acts 17: 11 – Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

Slide # 8

With this lesson we will seek to observe four biblical facts about salvation :

- I - Salvation is a gift that God gives.
- II - Salvation is forgiveness of sins.
- III - Salvation is a restored relationship.
- IV - Salvation is eternal security.

I. Salvation is a gift of God.Slide # 9**A. Being a gift, there is nothing man can do to earn salvation.**Slide # 10

1. The scriptures clearly state that salvation is a gift from God.

Slide # 11

Eph. 2: 8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. **Vs – 9** ... directly emphasizes that salvation is not relative to man's activities.

3. There is no deed man can do to impress God.

Slide # 12

Isa. 64: 6 – For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

B. Mankind has lost the ability to be holy, i.e., to live without sinning.Slide # 13

1. God created man sinless and put him in a sinless environment.

Slide # 14

Ecc. 7: 29 – Behold, I have found only this, that God made men upright, but they have sought out many devices.”

2. Having made man sinless, God requires that we stay that way.

Slide # 15

Matt. 5: 48 – Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

3. To deny our sinfulness is to be delusional, self deceived.

Slide # 16

I John 1: 8 – If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. Compare : **Rom. 3: 23**

4. Even if we could keep every single command of God, we wouldn't merit salvation.

Slide # 17

Luke 17:10 – “So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.’ ”

C. No man has ever deserved for Jesus to save him.Slide # 18

1. Every one of us deserves the wrath of God.

Slide # 19

Rom. 5: 9-10 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.
¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

2. God gives salvation as a free gift.

Slide # 20

Rom. 6: 23 – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* It's not uncommon for one to have to qualify for a free gift, but a gift is something that is given without being purchased.

Slide # 21

II. Salvation is forgiveness of sins.

Slide # 22

A. One needs salvation from that which puts him in peril.

Slide # 23

1. Sometimes the need is for salvation from physical needs.
 - a. When the disciple cried out for help, they needed saving from the storm.
 - b. The Jews wanted salvation from the Romans. (*Restore the kingdom .. Ax 1:6*)
 - c. Those who are ill pray for healing ... for salvation from death.
2. Man's greatest need is for salvation from terminal sin.
 - a. **Rom. 6: 23** – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Slide # 24
 - b. **Eph. 2: 1-2** And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, ... Slide # 25
 - c. *“The course of this world,” is the way unsaved people live, the average Joe.*

B. Sin is man's greatest peril.

Slide # 26

1. Sin separates man from God. Slide # 27

Isa. 59: 1-2 Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.
2. Sin exposes man to the wrath of God. Slide # 28

Rom. 5: 8-9 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.
3. Sin makes man the enemy of God. Slide # 29

Rom. 5: 10 – For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

C. To be forgiven is to be saved from spiritual death.

Slide # 30

1. John the baptizer went ahead teaching that salvation was from sin. Slide # 31

Luke 1: 77 – To give to His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,
2. The angel told Joseph that Jesus was coming to save people from their sins. Slide # 32

Matt. 1:21 – She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.
3. The Apostles preached that Jesus came to save people from sin. Slide # 33

I Tim. 1: 15 – It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ (cf.- Ax 13: 38) Jesus came into the world to save sinners among whom I am foremost..

III. Salvation is restored relationship.

[Slide # 34](#)

A. We've seen the horror of sin to be alienation from God.

[Slide # 35](#)

1. Sin separates the sinner from God.

[Slide # 36](#)

- a. **Isa. 59: 1-2** ... It creates a barrier which divides the sinner from God.
- b. **Rom. 5: 8-9** ... The sinner becomes God's enemy and is exposed to His wrath.
- c. **Rom. 6: 23** ... Being separated from God is called being "spiritually dead."

2. At the sinner's death, that separation becomes eternal.

[Slide # 37](#)

- a. **Heb. 9: 27** – ... it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,
- b. **II Thes. 1: 9** – These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

B. The act of salvation reconciles the sinner back to God.

[Slide # 38](#)

1. **Rom. 5: 10-11** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been, reconciled we shall be saved by His life. **11** And not only this, in but we also exult God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

[Slide # 39](#)

2. Reconciliation is salvation because salvation is only in Christ.

[Slide # 40](#)

II Tim. 2: 10 – For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory. (cf. – **John 14:6**)

- a. Those baptized **into** Christ (**Gal. 3: 37**) are baptized into salvation.
- b. Thus, those who go to God while in Christ are saved eternally.

C. Jesus / God will not refuse to reconcile with anyone who comes to Him.

[Slide # 41](#)

1. It is the will of God that every person on earth be saved. (cf. **II Pet. 3:9**)

[Slide # 42](#)

I Tim. 2: 3-4 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2. When salvation came it was made available to ALL men.

[Slide # 43](#)

Tit. 2: 11 – For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

3. God's plan is for His followers to reconcile the whole world to Him.

- a. **Matt. 28: 19** – Go make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the ... [Slide # 44](#)

- b. **II Cor. 5: 18-19** Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, [Slide # 45](#) **19** namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.**

IV. Salvation is eternal security.Slide # 46**A. The saved person can face God without fear of condemnation.**Slide # 47

1. **Rom. 8: 1** – Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Slide # 48
2. **Jude 24** – Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,

B. How can this be ? We know even Christians sin ?Slide # 49

1. **I John 1: 8** – If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. Slide # 50
2. The next verse explains how we can be made to stand. Slide # 51
I John 1: 9 – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- a. We must acknowledge our sinfulness and desire for forgiveness.
- b. Jesus keeps us “blameless” by keeping our sins forgiven.
3. We don’t have a free pass to sin; we have an advocate in Heaven. Slide # 52
 - a. **I John 2: 1** – My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
 - b. **Rom. 8: 33-34** Who will bring a charge against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies; ³⁴ who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Slide # 53

C. As a result, Christians live without fear of Judgment.Slide # 54

1. Living without fear is a fruit of our relationship with Christ. Slide # 55
 - a. **I John 4: 18** There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.
 - b. The Christian does not fear because he anticipates acceptance.
2. Never fear ! Slide # 56
Heb 7: 25 – Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
3. Never Doubt Jesus ! Slide # 57
II Tim. 1: 12 – ... for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

4. Like Paul, ... Live in anticipation of Heaven.

[Slide # 58](#)

II Tim. 4: 7-8 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; **8** in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

[Slide # 59](#)

CONCLUSION :

- A. Do you live in fear ?**

[Slide # 60](#)

1. If you do, you need to reestablish your relationship with Jesus ?
2. You need Jesus to intercede for you ?
3. You need to receive the gift of salvation.

- B. Once you are in fellowship with God His peace will fill your heart.**

[Slide # 61](#)

Phil. 4: 7 – And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- C. Will you not accept the gift Jesus died to purchase for you ?**

[Slide # 62](#)

1. Believe on Him with all your heart.
2. Confess your faith that He is the Son of God
3. Turn from self and commit your life to Him.
4. Call on Him by being immersed in water
5. Devote your life to serving Him.

INVITATION :

[Slide # 63](#)

Will you not come to Jesus now !

Lesson Texts :**II Thessalonians 1: 3-10**

3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is *only* fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater; **4** therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure. **5** *This is* a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering. **6** For after all it is *only* just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, **7** and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, **10** when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—for our testimony to you was believed.

Romans 5: 3-11

3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; **4** and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; **5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. **8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. **10** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.