

DO YOU HAVE SALVATION?

Of all the topics we could discuss, one of the most thrilling and necessary is “salvation.” It is the theme of scripture from start to finish. Man can never appreciate his need for salvation until he understands his distressing situation. Romans 3:10, 12, 23. The just wages are death, Rom. 6:23

Thanks to God’s scheme of redemption, we can have salvation. God had such love for us that he was willing to give his Son. He has provided our greatest need—salvation from our lost condition. The plan of salvation was not the product of human genius . . . it originated in the councils of heaven. The Father made the plan of salvation (Eph. 1:3-5), the Son executed the plan (John 6:38; 17:4); the Spirit revealed it (2 Pet. 1:21).

It is the weighty responsibility of Christians to bring to sinners a realization of their desperate and urgent need of salvation. Since the sinner cannot save himself, he must look to the word of God, and learn from it what is required. If we will learn from God’s word, and obey what we learn, salvation can be ours. (Heb. 7:25)

I. Things We Need to Know About Our Salvation.

A. We cannot be saved w/o Christ.

1. Matthew 1:21
2. John 3:16,17
3. Acts 4:12
4. I Tim. 4:14
5. Colossians 1:14
6. Song—Jesus saves . . .

B. We cannot be saved without the Gospel.

1. I Corinthians 15:1-4
2. Romans 1:16
3. James 1:21
4. II Thess. 1:7-9
5. Man is saved by the gospel, but the gospel is the power of God to save only the believer who obeys the gospel.

C. We cannot be saved without the blood of Christ

1. Romans 5:8,9
2. Heb. 9:22
3. Heb. 10:4
4. I Pet. 1:18,19
5. We come in contact with the blood of Christ in baptism (Rom. 6:1-6).
6. We are continually cleansed by the blood (I John 1:7).

D. We cannot be saved w/o obedient faith.

1. Heb. 11:6
2. Heb. 5:8,9
3. Romans 6:17,18
4. Galatians 3:26,27
5. Ephesians 2:8,9

E. We cannot be saved w/o being in the Lord’s church.

1. Acts 2:47
2. Acts 5:14
3. I Cor. 12:13
4. To be in Christ is to be in the church.
 - a. Eph. 1:22,23
 - b. II Tim. 2:10

5. *Ekklesia* means called out from the world. Called out by gospel (2 Thess.2:14; Col. 3:15).
 6. Jesus died for his church, so it is a blood-bought institute (Acts 20:28).
 7. Jesus promised to save the body (Eph. 5:25). Church is body of Christ.
 8. If saved out of the church, then saved out of the body of Christ, with no connection with Christ the head.
 - a. Church is family of God (I Tim. 3:15). If saved out of it, then saved out of God's family.
 - b. The church is the Lord's redeemed people, purchased with his blood.
 - c. If not a member, then not redeemed—not purchased with his blood. (Titus 2:14; I Pet 1:18f).
 9. Nowhere else did he ever promise to save any other institution, people, or individual. In fact, he said. . . Matt. 15:13.
- F. We cannot be saved w/o living right in the church.
1. Acts 2:42
 2. Philippians 2:12
 3. Heb. 3:6, 12
 4. Titus 2:11-14
 5. Rev. 2:10
 6. Do we really believe we have to be active Christians?
 - a. What about Matthew 28:19-20?
 - b. What about Gal. 5:19-23?
 - c. What about Titus 2:1-8?
 - d. What about II Peter 1:5-11?
- II. What doesn't everyone obtain salvation?
- A. Some refuse to come to Christ – John 5:40
 1. Jesus is the way, the only way (John 14:6)
 2. Acts 4:12
 - B. Some are concerned too much with the world.
 1. Matt. 16:26—What shall it profit . . .
 2. Heb. 11:25
 3. John 12:42
 - C. Some will not obey the “form of doctrine.”
 1. Rom. 6:17,18
 2. I pet. 1:22
 3. They say, “what good is it to be dipped in water?”
 - D. Some will allow false teaching to detour them from accepting the truth.
 1. Matthew 15:9
 2. I John 4:1
 3. II Thess. 2:10-12
 4. John 8:32
 - E. Some will not obey the gospel because of family ties.
 1. Luke 14:26
 2. Matt. 10:37
 3. Acts 5:29 (that includes parents)
 - F. Some put it off until tomorrow.
 1. Prov. 27:1
 2. James 4:14
 3. II Cor. 6:2
 4. Felix is an example (Acts 24:25)
 5. Agrippa put it off—Acts 26:28
 - G. Some believe God will save all men regardless.
 1. I Thess. 4:13

2. II Thess. 1:7-9
3. II Cor. 5:10,11

Con: Why not have salvation today? Obey the gospel, become a member of the Lord's body and live a faithful life. Don't keep putting it off! Don't worry about what the world will think! Don't worry about the hypocrites! Each will give an account of his own life in the judgment. Make sure your life is right with God. Christ came to save YOU! ! !

Many centuries ago the world was destroyed by water. God blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the air. There was but one place of safety in the day when the flood came: Noah's ark. All other places were useless—mountains, trees, towers, boats—utterly useless. Many years later, Peter would say...Acts 4:12. Jesus stated earlier...Jo.14:6. There is no salvation but by Jesus Christ. Are you **in Christ?** (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:26,27)