

SALVATION

John 3:14-18

I. "HOW IS A PERSON SAVED?"

II. "WHY DO ALL MEN AND WOMEN NEED TO BE SAVED?"



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INTRODUCTION

HOW IS A PERSON NOT SAVED?

1) Not by trying to keep the law. (Galatians 2:16, 21)

Galatians 2:16 *Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.*

Galatians 2:21 *I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*

A person trying to keep the Ten Commandments in order to be saved is under a curse:

Galatians 3:10 *For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.*

James 2:10 *For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

WHAT THE LAW IS FOR:

Romans 3:20 *Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

Galatians 3:24-25 *Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.*

2) Not by good works. (Titus 3:5-7; Romans 3:27; Isaiah 64:6)

Titus 3:5-7 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; 6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; 7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

Romans 3:27 *Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.*

Isaiah 64:6 *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

3) Not by our own effort. (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5)

All men are sinful, wicked, lost, dead and blind. Therefore it is impossible for man to save himself!!

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

In my introductory remarks, so far, we've looked at how a person is not saved:

- 1) Not saved by trying to keep the LAW. (Galatians 2:16, 21)
- 2) Not saved by good WORKS. (Titus 3:5-7; Romans 3:27; Isaiah 64:6)
- 3) Not saved by our own EFFORT. (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5)

AND NOW, A PERSON IS:

4) Not saved by WATER BAPTISM.

(Some try to say you have to be baptized to be saved. Nowhere in Scripture does It say you have to be baptized to be saved.)

The following verses were written incorrectly on purpose. A line has been drawn through the incorrect parts.

John 3:16--"That whosoever believeth in him ~~and is baptized~~ should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:36--"He that believeth on the Son ~~and is baptized~~ hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son ~~and is not baptized~~ shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

John 6:47--"He that believeth on me ~~and is baptized~~, hath everlasting life."

John 5:24--"He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, ~~and is baptized~~, hath everlasting life."

1 John 5:12--"He that hath the Son ~~and has been baptized~~ hath life."

Mark 16:16--"He that believeth ~~and is baptized~~ shall be saved; but he that believeth not ~~and is not baptized~~ shall be damned."

Acts 16:31--"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ ~~and be baptized~~ and thou shalt be saved."

I. HOW IS A PERSON SAVED?

A. BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH.

1) **GRACE**: Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:3-5

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

Grace is God's kindness and favor towards me even though I don't deserve it!

Titus 3:3-5 *For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. 4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

2) **FAITH**: Romans 3:24-25

God is able to be gracious and merciful to lost sinners BECAUSE OF WHAT CHRIST DID FOR US ON THE CROSS! **Faith** is simply taking God at His Word and acting upon what HE HAS SAID! God said it! I believe it! That settles it!

Romans 3:24-25 *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*

a. **Faith** is **BELIEVING** God (Romans 10:9; 3:4; 3:23)

Romans 10:9 *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

Romans 3:4 *God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.*

(When I believe God I am saying “yes, God is true”. Believing God always tells the truth, I must admit I am a sinner Romans 3:23.).

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

b. **Faith** comes by **HEARING** God’s Word (Romans 10:17).

Romans 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

c. **ABRAHAM** had faith in God (Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3-5; Galatians 3:6-9).

True faith must rest upon solid facts and our faith rests upon the written Word of God.

Abraham was a man of faith (see Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3-5 and Galatians 3:6-9).

Genesis 15:6 *And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*

Romans 4:3-5 *For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. 4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

Galatians 3:6 *Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. 7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.*

*Whatever God says must be true and we should believe it, rest upon it, obey it and live it! When we do not believe the Word of God, what terrible sin are we guilty of (see 1 John 5:10)? The answer: **LYING, calling God a LIAR!***

1 John 5:10 *He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.*

***Faith is responding properly, rightly and correctly to what God his said!** The man of faith responds properly to the Word of God! When God gives a **promise**, the person of faith believes it, is persuaded of it, sees it, looks for it, waits for it, rests upon it, clings to it and embraces it (see Hebrews 11:11,13)!*

Hebrews 11:11 *Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.*

Hebrews 11:13 *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth..*

B. SAVED: HOW??

1) THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN: **JESUS** (John 14:6; John 3:16; Acts 16:31)

John 14:6 *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

Acts 16:31 *And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.*

II. WHY DO ALL MEN AND WOMEN NEED TO BE SAVED?



A. ALL PEOPLE NEED TO BE SAVED BECAUSE THEY ARE:

1) SINFUL (Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Romans 3:23)

Psalm 14:1-3 *The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. 2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. 3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

2) WICKED (Jeremiah 17:9-10; Mark 7:20-23)

Jeremiah 17:9-10 *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.*

Mark 7:20-23 *And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. 21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*

3) LOST (Luke 19:10; Isaiah 53:6)

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

Isaiah 53:6 *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

4) DEAD (Genesis 2:17 - compare Romans 5:12; John 5:24; Ephesians 2:5)

Genesis 2:17 *But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

Romans 5:12 *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

John 5:24 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

Ephesians 2:5 *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)*

5) BLIND (2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Proverbs 14:12; 16:25)

2 Corinthians 4:4 *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

1 Corinthians 2:14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Proverbs 14:12 *There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*

GOD'S PLAN

Question: Who is good enough to go to Heaven?

Answer: NONE

Romans 3:10 *"As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one;"*

Question: Who is a sinner?

Answer: ALL

Romans 3:23 *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"*

Question: Why are people sinners?

Answer: BECAUSE OF ONE MAN: ADAM

Romans 5:12 *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"*

Question: What happens because of sin?

Answer: DEATH

Romans 6:23a *"For the wages of sin is death;...."*

Question: If all people are sinners, and the wage (payoff) for sin is death (both physical and spiritual), does that mean no one will go to Heaven?

Answer: NO, CHRIST PAID FOR OUR SIN

Romans 5:8 *"But God Commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

Question: What is eternal life?

Answer: A GIFT

Romans 6:23b *"....but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Question: So, what does all this mean?

Answer: It means that all people in this world are sinners. No one can go to Heaven on their own because everyone is a sinner. No one is good enough (without Christ) to go to Heaven. Because no one is good enough to go to Heaven, (everyone is a sinner), God sent His Son, Jesus, who died so that we could have eternal life. Christ not only died, He rose from the grave, alive! (1 Corinthians 15:4 *And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*)

Question: Exactly what would you have to do in order to make sure of Heaven?

Answer: CALL: PRAY, ASK JESUS TO SAVE YOU:

Romans 10:13 *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

Accept the fact that you are a sinner. Accept the fact that you cannot save yourself. Accept the fact that Jesus died and rose from the dead (He's alive) for you.

PRAY: *"Lord, I know I'm a sinner. I know I wouldn't go to Heaven if I died right now. Please forgive me of my sins, and come into my heart. I am praying this prayer, believing in my heart, taking You at Your Word (the Bible) that by asking You to come into my heart, I am now ready for Heaven.*

Thank You, Lord, for saving me!"

REMEMBER: Romans 10:13 *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved."*

Let me know if you have decided to trust Jesus as your Saviour. I want to rejoice with you and send you **FREE** material that will help you as a new Christian.

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May the Lord bless you! L.W.

