

## VIII. SOTERIOLOGY

### A. Definitions Pertaining to Salvation

1. *Salvation* - Rescue and deliverance from the impending penalty of sin, and captivity by, sin that all men face. To be healed and made whole <sup>Matt 9:20-22</sup>.
2. *Gospel* - The Gospel is the story of God. It is that which we must hear and believe in order to be saved <sup>I Cor 15:2</sup>. It is the account of death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ for our sins <sup>I Cor 15:3-4</sup>.
3. *Grace* - The unmerited favor which is practiced by God (and demonstrated through Christ) towards all men <sup>Titus 2:11</sup> which every man may freely accept or reject <sup>John 5:40</sup>.
4. *Works* - Deeds; mans efforts; actions intended to earn a reward <sup>Ro 4:4-5</sup>.
5. *Faith* - An applied belief in that which has no external evidence <sup>Heb 11:1</sup>.
6. *Law* - That which delineates sin and holiness <sup>Ro 3:20</sup>. It is that which teaches us our need for salvation.
7. *Legalism* - Attempting to obtain salvation by obeying law.
8. *Repentance* - A change of mind, and consequently of purpose. Turning from sin and works to the Lord for salvation <sup>I Ki 8:47-49</sup>.
9. *Justification* - To be made righteous; to be declared just; the legal declaration of innocense <sup>Rom 4:5</sup>.
10. *Substitution* - Christ taking our place of punishment for sin and giving us His place of reward and fellowship with God because of His righteousness <sup>II Cor 5:21</sup>.
11. *Atonement* - The removal of that which separates us from God; the instatement of conciliation between sinners and God <sup>Rom 5:11</sup>.
12. *Propitiation* - The appeasement, by the Lord Jesus Christ, of the wrath of God against us because of our sin <sup>I Jn 2:2</sup>.
13. *Redemption* - Man's release from sin and its penalty thru the liberating ransom paid by the Lord Jesus Christ <sup>Eph 1:7</sup>.
14. *Election* - To be called out; to be differentiated from others; God has eternally called out and distinguished those who are the "elect" based upon His foreknowledge of their free will decision to accept His Son <sup>I Pe 1:2</sup>.

### B. Provision and Availability of Salvation

1. *The Lord Jesus Christ* - The Lord Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation, the only truth of salvation and the only life in salvation <sup>John 14:6</sup>. No man can come to the Father but by Him. He is the perfect expression of God's love. *Salvation is exclusive of those outside of Christ, not inclusive* <sup>Acts 4:12</sup>.
2. *The Blood* - The literal, eternally preserved blood of Christ must have been shed in order to remit our sins; it is eternally present on the mercy seat in heaven <sup>Heb 9:22-24</sup>.
3. *The Sinners* - Salvation is available to everyone who is a sinner, and to no one else <sup>I Tim 1:15</sup>.
4. *Available to All* - Salvation is available to all men; God wills that every man be saved <sup>I Tim 2:3-4</sup>, but God also permits every man to accept or reject the free gift of salvation.
5. *All Who Hear* - Men must hear the gospel in order to be saved <sup>Ro 10:14</sup>.

**Matt 9:20** And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: **21** For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. **22** But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

**I Cor 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures . . .

**Titus 2:11** For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men

**John 5:40** And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

**Rom 4:4** 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 justificth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

**Heb 11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**Ro 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.

**I Ki 8:47** Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness; **48** And so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name: **49** Then hear thou their prayer . . .

**II Cor 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**Rom 5:11** And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

**Ro 3:25** Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood

**I Jo 2:2** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

**Eph 1:7** In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

**IPe 1:2** Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ

**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.

**Acts 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

**Heb 9:22** And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. **23** It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. **24** For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us

**I Tim 1:15** This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

**I Tim 2:3** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; **4** Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

**Rom 10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

6. *All Who Receive* - As many as receive the Lord Jesus Christ may obtain eternal life <sup>Jn 1:12</sup>.
7. *All Who Call* - Any man who scripturally calls upon the Lord for salvation will be saved <sup>Ro 10:13</sup>.
8. *All Who are Drawn* - All men are drawn to Christ <sup>John 12:32</sup>. Their condemnation will result from refusal to come to Him, not from a failure to be drawn <sup>John 3:19-20</sup>.
9. *Freely* - There is no cost for salvation that man can provide. Salvation is a free gift available to all <sup>Ro 5:18</sup>.

### C. Acquisition of Salvation

1. *Confession* - A man must confess that he is a sinner in order to be saved <sup>Ro 10:9</sup>.
2. *Repentance* - A man must repent to be saved <sup>Acts 3:19, Lu 15:7</sup>.
3. *Faith* - Salvation comes to those who place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ <sup>Acts 16:30-31</sup>.
4. *Call* - Personally calling upon the Christ of the Bible is essential to salvation <sup>Rom 10:13</sup>.
5. *Cessation of Labor* - In order for a man to be saved, he must cease from trusting in his works to save him <sup>Ro 8:24</sup>.
6. *Works Excluded* - It is not possible for a man to rely upon the combination of faith and works to save him. Faith and works are mutually exclusive; men are saved by God's grace. <sup>Titus 3:5, Eph 2:8-9</sup>. The term "works" would include, but is not limited to, baptism, church membership, and keeping the law.

### D. Consequences of Salvation

1. *Indwelling* - Every born again believer is indwelt by the Spirit of God <sup>Ro 8:9</sup>.
2. *Adoption* - Salvation is accompanied by adoption by the Father <sup>Ro 8:15</sup> and co-inheritance with the Son <sup>I Pe 1:3</sup>.
3. *Security* - A person who is truly saved is kept by the power of God, not by his own power. This means that eternal life is essential, not potential. A person who is ever saved is always saved <sup>I Pe 1:4-5</sup>.
4. *Regeneration* - Salvation is a spiritual re-birth <sup>John 3:3</sup> after death which came by sin <sup>Ro 7:9</sup>. All saved men are Spiritually born again.
5. *Change* - The faith that saves is a faith that produces action. Men who are saved will show a changed life. The change is not the cause of their salvation; their salvation is the cause of the change <sup>James 2:17</sup>.
6. *Continuance* - A man who is born again continues in that state perpetually, not because of his perseverance, but because of the perseverance of the Holy Spirit <sup>I Jn 3:9</sup>.
7. *Eternal Life* - Being born again means having eternal fellowship with God and living with Him for as long as He lives <sup>John 10:28</sup>.
8. *The Lord Jesus Christ* - Any man who is saved "has" the Lord Jesus Christ for all eternity <sup>I Jn 5:12</sup>.

**Jn 1:12** 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

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

**Joh 12:32** And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

**Joh 3:19** And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. **20** For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

**Ro 5:18** Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

**Rom 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.

**Ac 3:19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out

**Lu 15:7** I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

**Acts 16:30** And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? **31** And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

**Ro 8:24** For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

**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

**Eph 2:8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**Ro 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

**Ro 8:15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

**I Pe 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Joh 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

**Ro 7:9** For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. **Jam 2:17** Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

**I Jn 3:9** Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

**Joh 10:28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

**I Jo 5:12** He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.