

Salvation

1. **Why is it important for a Christian to learn about Salvation?**
 - A proper understanding of salvation leads one to genuine saving faith for themselves and the assurance of that salvation
 - The purpose of Salvation is for us to be conformed into His likeness – Rom 8:29
2. **How important is this compared to learning other things about the Christian faith such as the church, prayer, evangelism, etc...?**
 - It is vital to understand because a misunderstanding of salvation could lead someone to false assurance and deceive them in to thinking they are saved.
 - It is imperative to teach to a disciple and to continue to weave these truth's through all future teaching.

Intro –

- **Salvation is and happens by these means;**
 - A. **Sola Gratia – By God's GRACE alone – a gift, not merited**
 - B. **Sola Fide – By FAITH alone – the means by which it is applied – no other means**
 - C. **Sola Christo – In CHRIST alone – Only He could merit salvation, sinless perfection is imputed, substitution(penalty)**
- **A few general terms used to describe different aspects of Salvation**
Atonement – Calling – Depravity – Election - Eternal Security – Faith Foreknowledge – Glorification - Grace – Imputation – Justification - Position/Practice – Predestination – Propitiation – Reconciliation - Repentance – Redemption – Regeneration – Sanctification - Substitution

God's Sovereignty in Salvation –

1. All the Glory for Salvation belongs to God, it is to the praise of His Glory! Every element of salvation is the work of God. He foreknows, He calls, He chooses, He grants repentance and faith, He justifies, He sanctifies, He glorifies. **Eph 1:3-14, Rom 9:10-24**
Romans 8:28-30 - 28 And we know that in all things **God works** for the good of those who love him, who have been **called** according to his purpose. 29 For those **God foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he **predestined**, he also **called**; those he called, he also **justified**; those he justified, he also **glorified**. NIV
2. Regeneration is a necessary part of Salvation. Regeneration precedes faith. Because man is by nature depraved and cannot understand the things of God(John 3:3, Rom 8:5-8, 1 Cor 2:14-15), God must by His Spirit grant the capacities needed to repent and believe.
Regeneration - a sovereign act of God by his Spirit in which the believing sinner is given the capacities needed to understand and lay hold of the kingdom of God by faith and granted eternal life. His/her mind, will and emotions are divinely enabled to comprehend sin and righteousness and judgment. His/her spirit is resurrected from its natural dead state, restoring communion with God who is Spirit. It is a fundamental change in the nature of mankind having the very nature and eternal life of God infused into the human soul. At this time the Holy Spirit enters into the being of mankind performing this transformation eternally.

Conversion -

1. **Repentance is a necessary element of Salvation** – Jesus and the apostles all preached that one must repent in order to be saved. Repentance is a fruit of the indwelling Holy Spirit and of genuine saving faith.
Matt 4:17, Acts 17:30, Acts 26:20, John 3:3, Titus 3:5-6, 1 Pet 1:3, 2 Tim2:25
Acts 26:20 -20 First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, **I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.**
2. **Faith is a necessary element of Salvation.** Faith is the only means by which salvation can be applied to man. Faith is also the gift of God, it is not merited by man. Acts 20:21, Phil 3:9, Rom 5:1
Rom 3:22-25 - 22 This **righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.** There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are **justified freely by his grace** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. NIV
Eph 2:8 - For it is **by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works,** so that no one can boast.

Evidence of Salvation -

1. **Salvation is evidenced by good works.** Genuine saving faith *always* results in fruit which comes from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. John 15:5, Gal 5:22-24, Heb 11, Matt 7:21
James 2:14-21 - 14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? 15 Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, **faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. 20 You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?**
2. **Assurance always accompanies genuine saving faith.** Assurance is a benefit which comes from saving faith, it is a fruit of the indwelling Holy Spirit.
Rom 8:16,35, 1 John 5:10-13, Gal 4:6, John 10:27-30
1 John 4:13-17 - 13 **We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.** 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. 16 And so **we know and rely on the love God has for us.** God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. NIV

Application -

1. **Why is the Sovereignty of God in salvation important in evangelism?**

Recommended Reading:

AW Pink – The Sovereignty of God

John MacArthur – The Gospel According to Jesus

Jonathon Edwards – The True Believer