

SALVATION

Hebrews 2:3 (nlt) So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus Himself and then delivered to us by those who heard Him speak?

What is this GREAT SALVATION?

Those who are saved have escaped the anger of God toward our sin. We are refugees from sin who become children of Royalty!

This salvation gives the believer access to **EVERYTHING God has provided for humanity** by the sacrificial death of His Son, at Calvary.

We ARE SAVED from the PENALTY of sin.

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

(Ephesians 2:4-5)

Salvation: **past tense.**

Complete freedom from condemnation for all who have put their faith in Christ as their Saviour.

We are BEING SAVED from the POWER of sin.

Philippians 2:12b-13 "...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works

in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."

(2 Peter 1:10-11)

Salvation: **present tense.**

The Christian entering more and more into victory over sin and growing more and more like Christ.

We are ABOUT to be SAVED from the PRESENCE of sin.

Hebrews 9:28 "...Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him."

(Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10)

Salvation: **future tense.**

The great hope that lies before us, the second coming of Christ, the day of resurrection, and the eternal reward waiting for the children of God.

God knew our desperate need to be saved from the penalty of our sin. The Bible declares we all are...

A Doomed Sinner

Romans 3:23 "...For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

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

(Romans 5:12)

Separated from God

Isaiah 53:6a "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;"

Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear."

Lost and Without Hope

"There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." Romans 3:10-12

(Romans 1:18)

In Spiritual Darkness

Micah 7:21-23 "For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man unclean."

This desperate situation demanded that God should either wipe out the whole human race or work out a way of salvation whereby we could be completely restored.

God chose for us to be restored.

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

John 3:16-17

JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY WAY OF SALVATION.

When Peter spoke to: *"the rulers, elders, and teachers of the law, along with Annas, Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other members of the High Priest's family,"*

Acts 4:5-6

Peter spoke boldly about Jesus: *"...Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."* ***Acts 4:12***

Paul confirms this also to Timothy: *"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."* ***1 Timothy 2:5***

(Acts 13:3; Romans 3:20; Romans 3:8; 2 Timothy 1:9)

Churchianity Is Not Christianity

Bible knowledge, serving or attending church a couple times a month and being involved in church activities, is not earning eternal life.

*Isaiah 64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all **our righteous acts are like filthy rags**; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.*

No self-effort or good works can gain salvation. Salvation, eternal life, entrance into the kingdom of God, can be gained only by faith in Christ.

*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. **Ephesians 2:8-9***

This Great Salvation is not borne from within us, it is God working within us, bringing a change of heart making us a new creation in Christ.

***2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*

Can you say with Paul the Apostle, *"I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day..."* **2 Timothy 1:12b**

Jesus Christ is the only way to this Great Salvation.

It is Jesus whom we must believe and whom we must confess that only He died for our sins and took our guilt upon Himself.

Discussion Questions

- When Jesus went to the cross, he took our place. For example, if I commit a parking offence, I will be fined. If I can't pay the fine, I'm in real trouble. But someone else could pay my fine for me.

That's precisely what Jesus did; he paid the price for our sin. Which words in **Romans 5:8** tell us this?

- When Jesus lived, he was perfect, therefore he earned the right to live and be called righteous. We're far from perfect and earn the right to die.

When Jesus, who need never had died, went to the cross, he bore himself all of our sin. Which words in **2 Corinthians 5:21** tell us this?

- We can truthfully say that since Christ has borne our sins on the cross, our old life is finished, having died when he died. Which words in **Galatians 2:20** tell us this?
- Which words in **Romans 6:6-7** tell us this?
- At the cross, when Jesus took our sins, he gave us his righteousness at the same time. The reward he rightfully deserved (life through

righteousness), he gave to us. The penalty that we rightfully deserved (death through sin), he took on himself. Jesus bought us back from the penalty of sin, and gave us power over sin in our new lives so that we may be a people belonging to God, holy and righteous. Which words in **1 Corinthians 1:30** tell us this?

Note: Redemption means 'to buy back' - e.g. You redeem your watch from the pawnbrokers.