

The Doctrine of Salvation (Part 2) – Various Scriptures

Rom 8:29-30; We started a new series last weekend called Blessed Assurance, for the purpose of understanding all that God has to say about salvation . . .

And to solidify our convictions as to our *standing* before God

B/c more often than not, our *experience* of salvation far exceeds our knowledge of it
And that leaves us on thin ice sometimes; B/c a lack of knowledge creates doubt, and doubt leads to cracks in our assurance

So in **Part 1**, we started with a *definition* of salvation

Salvation is deliverance from sin and its consequences, through belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus

Deliverance, by God's grace, through faith; That's salvation

Then, we launched into 12 aspect of it (**12 Aspects of Salvation**)

12 things that happened, happen, or will happen in connection with your salvation

The first being . . .

1. Election – God's choosing of people to be saved

And we spent the entire time talking about what it means

Finding that . . .

• **Before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3-6)**

Before we were ever born, before time began . . .

• **We were foreknown and predestined (Rom 8:28-29)**

• **And appointed to receive eternal life (Acts 13:48)**

• **Apart from any merit of our own (Rom 9:16)**

And then found from Rom 9, that God does that . . .

• **To magnify his glory (Rom 9:19-24)**

To reveal the fullness of his attributes and being; Even though we have a hard time with it sometimes; And can't answer all the questions associated with it (**Summary**)

But more than any other aspect, election is crucial to our assurance; B/c what God decides, he does

That was Part 1; Which brings us to **Part 2**, and aspects 2-8; Starting with . . .

2. Propitiation – the appeasement of God's wrath for our sin

1 Jn 4:10 says that *God sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins*; Which means, the appeasement of God's *wrath* for our sins

And Rom 3:25 says that God put him *forward as a propitiation by his blood* – by his suffering and death on the cross

When Jesus died on the cross, one of the things he was doing, was satisfying or appeasing God's holy wrath toward our unholy sin

Can you imagine how *terrible* that must have been?

During the summers, when my brothers and I were growing up, we would wake up each morning and Mom would have a list of chores for us to do . . .

While she was out and about delivering Avon

And every now and then, we would dig in our heels, and refuse to do them; Or goof *off* so much that they *wouldn't* get done

And on some of those occasions, mom would come home, reach the end of her patience, and call Dad; And when *that* happened, it was a problem

B/c he well knew that we were not only *disobeying* mom, but dishonoring her; And his wrath b/c of it, was frightening; Especially when he got home

I remember dreading it; And most times, it was worse than I imagined

But that doesn't even *compare* to the absolute terror we'd feel, if we were subject to the full wrath of *God*

Think about it; If just his *presence* arouses fear and trembling like we see in the Bible – what must his *wrath* do?

I'll tell you what it does – it causes earth and sky to flee away; Like Rev 20 says, will happen at the Great White Throne judgment; When God pours *out* his wrath

The wrath that's on you right *now*, if you're *not* saved (Jn 3:36)

Which means that propitiation is no small part of our salvation

Completed at the cross, and applied to our lives, when we believe

3. Calling – the proclamation and acceptance of the gospel

I say proclamation *and* acceptance, b/c the call of God on our lives, is effective and certain

B/c it's not just the *general* call of the gospel – the outward offer of salvation to *everyone*, that's rejected by many . . .

But the *inward* call of God on a person's life, that's powerful and effective;

Guaranteeing acceptance

Rom 8:29-30 – [29] *For those whom he foreknew [elected] he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son [determined they would be saved], in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. [30] And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

Those whom he predestined, he also called, and those whom he called he also justified

If those whom God calls, he justifies, or saves – then their calling is certain; They'll say yes; They'll accept; B/c the summons of God is so compelling

Proclaimed through his Word and his people, and accepted in our hearts

4. Regeneration – the act of God to give us spiritual life

Described in the Bible as being *born again*

Just like we're given physical life when we're born of the flesh, we're given spiritual life when we're born of the Spirit

Like Jesus said to Nicodemus in **John 3:6** – *That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit [the Holy Spirit] is spirit.*

And **1 Pet 1:3** says – *According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again [given new spiritual life] to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead;* Connecting our spiritual re-birth, to our salvation

As does **Jn 3:3**; Where Jesus said – *“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”* He can't be saved

He can't be a part of God's rule and reign

When you were saved, God overcame your deadness due to sin, and made you *alive together with Christ* the Bible says (Eph 2:5); He regenerated you And did so through the power and presence of his Spirit within you – the HS***** Who you receive at the moment you accept God’s call on your life, to quicken you and awaken you and raise you to new life That’s regeneration – the act of God, through his Spirit, to give us spiritual life

5. **Conversion** – our response of faith and repentance

Part of our salvation is our expression of *faith* in Jesus to *save* us, and repentance for sin Like Jesus said in Mk 1:15 – *Repent and believe in the gospel*; Put your faith in who he is and what he’s done, and turn from who *you* are and what *you’ve* done; IOW . . . Convert; Come out of the domain of darkness, and into the marvelous light (1 Pet 2:9)

➤ Unfortunately, some people mistakenly think they have, b/c they give mental ascent to the *facts* about Jesus, and feel *bad* about the consequences of their *sin* But biblical belief isn’t just mental ascent; It’s personal trust; Trust in who Jesus is, and what he’s done – for you And biblical repentance, isn’t just remorse

So often, people think that b/c they’re remorseful, they’re repentant; And nothing could be further from the truth; B/c Paul says in **2 Cor 7:9-10** . . .
As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us [you didn’t miss out on salvation]. [10] For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret [b/c you get life], whereas worldly grief [remorse] produces death.

Feeling bad about your sin b/c of the guilt, or the consequences, or how much it hurts someone – does not produce a *repentance that leads to salvation*; That’s *worldly* grief But feeling bad about your sin b/c it offends *God*, and is an affront to his *holiness*, and exposes the extent of your *rebellion* against him – is *godly* grief And it *does* produce a repentance that leads to salvation; It *does* produce a genuine renouncing of your sin, and a sincere commitment to follow through . . . And an overwhelming desire to live for him

There’s a *difference*; And in addition to your belief, your personal faith and trust in Jesus to save you, it’s key to your conversion*****

6. **Redemption** – our rescue and release from sin and Satan

Release from Satan, b/c 1 John 5:19 says that *the whole world is in the power of the evil one*; And release from sin, b/c we’re captive to it; **Rom 7:21-24**
After saying he does what he shouldn’t, and doesn’t do what he should; Paul says in v21 [21] *So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.*
[22] *For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, [23] but I see in my members [my body] another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. [24] *Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*
Apart from salvation, we are captive to sin*

But Jesus gave himself to rescue and relieve us – *to redeem us from all lawlessness* the Bible says (Titus 2:14); And *deliver us from Satan’s dominion (Rom 3:23-25)*
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24] and are justified by his grace [saved] as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus
Through our rescue from the grip of sin; Through our release from the power of Satan It’s one more aspect of our salvation; And so is . . .

7. **Justification** – God’s imputation and declaration of our righteousness

That’s what we find in verses like **Rom 4:24-25**
It [righteousness] will be counted to us [imputed to us; credited to our account] who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, [25] who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification [our verdict of “not-guilty”].
And then the next verse (5:1) says – *Therefore, since we have been justified [which means declared righteous in God’s sight] by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

So there are 2 parts of our justification in salvation:

1. God *declares* us righteous in his sight; Like a judge declares someone not guilty That’s how God thinks of us when he saves us; We’re no longer guilty of our sin
2. He *imputes* his righteousness to us
Just like our sin is transferred to *Jesus’* account when we’re saved, his righteousness is transferred to ours; Imputed to ours; Credited to ours
Again, just like it says in v24 – *It [righteousness] will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord*
What righteousness? The righteousness of God

Like **Phil 3:8-9** says – *For his sake [Jesus’ sake] I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law [from doing good works], but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith*

So justification is not only God’s *declaration* of righteousness, by virtue of removing our sin and guilt – but the imputation of his *own*, as well*****
It’s credited to our account, never to be withdrawn

8. **Reconciliation** – the removal of enmity between us and God

That’s not only what the word *means* in ancient Greek, but that’s what the Bible says **Rom 5:10-11** – *For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. [11] *More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

3 thoughts in that verse – We’re *reconciled* to God by the *death* of Christ; We’re saved by the *life* of Christ; And we’re filled with *joy* b/c of it; Or should be

But it starts with enmity; Apart from salvation, we were *enemies* of God; That’s what it says in v10 – *while we were enemies we were reconciled to God*
While we were at odds with him; While we were in rebellion against him; While we were living contrary to his way; We were enemies

➤ But through Christ, he reconciled us to himself

That's **2 Cor 5:18-19** – *All this is from God* [referring to our salvation and its effect],

who through Christ reconciled us to himself

He did it; Not us; *He* restored the relationship (**next part**)

And gave us the ministry of reconciliation; [19] that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

It's the classic verse to say – “We weren't saved to sit; We weren't reconciled to recline”

Rather, we were given the charge and responsibility to facilitate *more* reconciliation

between God and man; To facilitate *more* restoration

More intimacy out of enmity; *More* beauty out of ashes; And more *healing* out of brokenness*****

We proclaim it, and God does it; Check out this **Video** (Falling Plates)

➤ (**Summary**) I hope you do; I hope you've responded to God's call on your life, and know his propitiation, and regeneration, and redemption . . .

And justification, and reconciliation – firsthand; B/c that's salvation

Pray – God, we praise you for every single aspect of our salvation; Each bought, guaranteed, and made possible by the blood of Jesus; You're good, and faithful, and true; And we give now, b/c you gave