

## **Lesson 6 - Salvation – Supplemental Notes**

### **God's Sovereignty in Salvation**

Salvation is a sovereign work of God. However, to understand that salvation is solely a work of God requires an understanding that man has no capacity to save himself.

Because of the depravity of man, man on his own could never, and would never, find God. *God must seek man out.* Salvation is totally a work of God. This leads us to thanksgiving if we are saved, or of prayer for salvation, if we are not.

### **The Process of Salvation**

See Romans 8:29-30

This passage is talking about the process, or the plan, of salvation. It stresses God's sovereignty and direction. There are five links in the chain:

- foreknew – God knew beforehand the plan for a person's life
- predestined – God chose those who would receive eternal life
- called – God invites those he predestined to believe
- justified – God declares those who believe guiltless through Jesus' death and resurrection
- glorified – Those who are justified will receive glory when Jesus comes again.

The chain is unbreakable; once the process is begun it will come to completion.

Salvation is a work of God and God alone. Repentant faith is the first step we take in response to God calling us; and even our faith is a gift from God.

### **The Foreknowledge of God**

Implies an intimate knowledge of the details of our lives because God is sovereign over our lives. It is more than just knowing what will happen; it is planning it before we were born.

### **The purpose of God in choosing some for salvation:**

- He chose so He may receive praise and glory for His grace. Ephesians 1:6
- He chose according to His purposes. 2 Timothy 1:9

## **Man's responsibility in salvation**

Even though God is sovereign in choosing those who are to be saved, man is still responsible for his sin and rejection of Christ.

- God offers an open call – John 3:16; Romans 10:11-13
- Man is responsible for his unbelief – John 3:18
- Man is held responsible for not obeying the Gospel – 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9
- Man is not saved because he is unwilling to come – Matthew 23:37; John 5:39-40

## **Steps of Salvation**

- God calls one to salvation – Romans 8:29-30
- God draws one to Himself – John 6:44
- The Holy Spirit convicts one of sin – John 16:8-9
- God grants repentance – 2 Timothy 2:25; Acts 11:18
- God gives one the faith to believe – 2 Peter 1:1; Philippians 1:29; Ephesians 2:8-9
- God justifies the believer – Romans 4:25-5:1
- The Holy Spirit washes and regenerates – Titus 3:5
- God promises to glorify – Romans 8:30; Philippians 3:20-21.

**Every aspect of a person's salvation is a work of God.**

**Man's part in the salvation process is only to respond to the calling of God.**

**The only thing a person can do that will have any part in salvation is to exercise faith in what Jesus Christ has done for him.**

## **Conversion**

True conversion involves a conviction and brokenness over one's sins before a holy God. It is accompanied by a desire to repent, turn from one's sin, and follow Christ.

### *1. The nature of true conviction of sin and repentance.*

True repentance is much more than having bad feelings over one's sin. True repentance involves a change of mind, regret for sin, and ultimately "turning from sin to God."

### *2. The nature of true saving faith.*

Faith means trusting in, clinging to, or embracing Jesus Christ, who is the object of our faith. True faith is marked by good works. (James 2:19)

### *3. The results of true conversion.*

True conversion results in one being lifted from the burden of being a slave of sin (John 8:34) and becoming a slave of righteousness (Romans 6:18)

Note: This does not mean that Christians will not sin. Christians will continue to sin. It is a struggle of the sinful flesh against the Christian's new nature (Romans 7:15-25). However, a Christian will not desire to sin and will not enjoy it. The distinguishing mark is the fight against sin. Does the person love Christ and hate sin?

### **Evidence of Salvation**

True salvation is never void of true faith, love and hope.

- True *faith* will always be marked by good works and will be tested by trials.
- True *love* will be manifested in good deeds toward others.
- True *hope* will endure to the end.

### **The Security of Salvation**

A true believer in Christ cannot lose his or her salvation.

- ♦ Protected by the power of God – 1 Peter 1:3-5
- ♦ God will finish what he began – Philippians 1:6
- ♦ You can know that you have eternal life – 1 John 5:13
- ♦ Nothing can separate you from God – Romans 8:38-39

Your salvation is not yours to lose:

- ♦ God predestined you to be saved.
- ♦ God has called and drawn you to Himself.
- ♦ God has convicted you of your sin.
- ♦ God has given you the faith to believe.
- ♦ God has granted you repentance.
- ♦ God has justified you.
- ♦ God has sealed you with the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ God has made you a new creation.
- ♦ God promises to glorify you.

*Source: Fundamentals of the Faith Teacher's Guide, pages 95-100.*