

# THE DOCTRINES OF SALVATION

"...the joy of salvation that makes the heart glow, for I have been born again."

Given what we have learned about the Bible, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity and man we can go on to the teachings the Bible gives us about Salvation. We have seen God's plans and aspirations in creating mankind, and how far short men have come from declaring the glory of God. The Heavens declare the glory of God, but mankind in general does not. And yet we know that creation was not a wild shot in the dark by the Creator. God knew what would happen and that we would all glorify Him.

The first question of the catechism asks us what is the chief end (purpose) of man? And the answer is simply that the chief end of man is to glorify God. Today we will talk about how this can be done even after we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Rom 10 tells us that the first step in salvation is hearing the message of the good news that God has provided a way for it to happen.

## A REPENTANCE

Repentance is a necessary prerequisite to salvation.

Jesus taught it. -- Mtt 3:1-2, 4:17, Lk 24:47, Mk 6:12.

The disciples preached it. -- Acts 2:38, Acts 4:2, 17:30, 2 Pet 3:9, Lk 13:3.

Repentance is an indication of the restoration of the original intent that man should be dependent on God. Repentance is not just a self turn around which we can do on our own, but a recognition of the centrality of God instead of egocentricity. A theocentric view.

Repentance touches the whole person

the intellect Acts 2:14-40

the emotions 2 Cor 7:9, Lk 10:13, Gen 6:6, Psa 38:18

the will Psalm 38, 52

Confession is deliberate. Psa 38:18, Lk 18:13, Jas 5:16

Forsaking is deliberate. Isa 55:7, Psa 2:13, Mtt 3:8-10

Turning to God is deliberate. I Thess 1:9, Acts 20:21

Repentance is a divine gift. Acts 11: 17, 21, Tim 2:25

God uses means (chastisements, sorrow, caring) to effect repentance. Revivals come mostly in times of panic!

The results of repentance

-- Lk 15:7,10 – Heaven made glad

-- Isa 55:7, Acts 3:19 – Men are qualified for pardon.

-- Acts 2:38 – The Holy Spirit is poured on the penitent.

## B FAITH

In general, faith in the Bible refers to knowledge, assent, and appropriation. It thereby shows that faith relates to the heart, the soul, and the mind.

Saving faith is not merely mental knowledge; nor only knowledge and assent to the truth of that understanding, but it also includes the appropriation of that knowledge to the particular perceived need.

Faith in God must accept the existence of God and the dependability of His Word. Heb 11:6. Acts 27:25, Rom 4:19-21, Gen 15:4-6.

Faith toward Christ accepts His Person and Work, and appropriates the efficacy of that to the faithful. Believing with the heart. Rom:10:9-10

Faith is connected with prayer. I Jno 5:14,15, Jas 1:5-7, Mk 11:24

As to God's promises, faith believes that God who cannot lie is faithful, and that the promise is valid. Heb 11:1i, 35,i7

As to faith and works, faith is the ground of our justification while works is the demonstration of our justification.

The source of faith is both human and divine, since it is a gift of His grace, for which we are responsible, and which grows by the use of the faith we already have. Lk 17:5,6, Mtt 25:29.

Results of Faith

we are saved by faith

we have rest, peace, assurance, and joy through faith –

we may do exploits through faith

### **C REGENERATION -- BORN AGAIN**

Regeneration is not baptism nor reformation, it is a spiritual quickening-

an impartation of the divine nature

a new and divine impulse

a creative miracle

Regeneration is absolutely essential to even see the kingdom of God (Jno 3) because of man's sinfulness and because of God's holiness.

Regeneration is a divine work -- born of God. Jno 1:13, 3:5, Tit 3:5

The human side is acceptance – to those who receive Him. Both the efficiency of God and the activity of man are involved.

Regeneration involves acceptance of the Gospel message. 1 Cor 15:1-11

And a personal acceptance of Jesus Christ. Gal 3:26, Phil 2:12,13.

If any man be in Christ he is a new creation. (Creation) 2 Cor 5:17

### **D JUSTIFICATION**

Justification means a change in man's relation or standing before God. Regeneration has to do with a change in the believer's nature while justification deals with the change of his standing before God. Deut .715:1, Rom 4:2-8, Psa 32:2,

The two elements of justification are :

1 The forgiveness of sin and removal of its punishment and guilt. Micah 7:18-19

2 The imputation of Christ's righteousness, and restoration to divine favour. 1 Cor 1:30

The condition upon which God will justify us is believing in Christ. Rom 3:26

Believers are justified judicially by God -- Rom 8.33

meritoriously by Christ -- Isa 53:11

mediately by faith -- Ram 5:1

evidently by works -- Jas 2:14

## E ADOPTION

**Regeneration** begins the new life of the soul; justification deals with the new attitude; sanctification with our change in character; and adoption with our change in position. In regeneration the believer becomes a child of God, while in adoption the believing child of God takes his place as an heir or privileged adult.

**Adoption** means the placing of a son, and is a legal term. 2 Cor 6:18, Heb 11:24.

In a sense it is eternal for we were predestined to be sons. Eph 1:4-5

Adoption takes place the moment we are saved. Ex 2:10, Heb 11:24, 1 Jno 3:1,2, Gal 3:26, Jno 1:12

It will be completed at the resurrection and coming again of Jesus Christ. 2 Cor 5:10, Jno 3:1-3

Because we are family:

We are led of the Spirit -- Rom 8:4

The Father cares for us -- Jno 17:23

We have childlike confidence in God -- Gal 4:4-5

We have family name -- 1 Jno 3:1-2

Have liberty of access -- Eph 3:12

Receive fatherly chastisement and compassion Heb 12:5-11

Have love for the brethren -- 1 Jno 2:9-11, 5:1

We have an inheritance I Pet 1:3-5, Rom 8:17

We are obedient -- 1 Jno 5:1-3

## F SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification has to do with our character and conduct, where the fruit of the new relationship is exhibited. Its meaning is twofold -- separation from sin and dedication unto God. Because of the nature of God no one can be sanctified except he be separated from the things that God hates.

Sanctification may be viewed as past present and future, or instantaneous, progressive and complete. 1 Cor 6:11, Heb 10:10-14

Making believers conform to the likeness of Christ is the work of the Triune God.

The work of God the Father -- 1 Thess 5:23,24, Phil 2:12-13

The work of God the Son -- Heb 10:10, 1 Cor 1:30, Eph 5:25-27

The work of God the Spirit -- 1 Pet 1:27, 2 Thess 2:13, Gal 5:17-22

From the human side sanctification is effected by:

Faith in the redemptive work of Christ -- 1 Cor 1:30, Acts 26:18

The reading of the scriptures -- Jno 17:17, Eph 5:26, Jno 15:3

Obedience to the will of God -- Rom 12:1-3, Heb 12:14, 2 Cor 6:17,7:1

Prayer -- Heb 10:19-22, Rom 8:26.

### I John 3 Adoption and justification

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.

And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.

Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

### Hebrews 12 Adoption and sanctification bring assurance

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?

For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees,

### I Corinthians 15 The gospel whereby we are saved

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,

by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you-unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.

After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.