

"THE REALITY OF BIBLICAL SALVATION"
ACTS 4:1-12; 1 PETER 1:1-12

INTRO: The word "**SALVATION**" is VERY COMMON among those who claim to be Christians, both here in American and around the world. **But the problem is that THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF WHAT SALVATION IS AND HOW TO OBTAIN IT.** In fact, there are many who claim to be Christians who are following a FALSE ROAD TO SALVATION and sadly, they will spend eternity in a **CHRISTLESS ETERNITY IN THE LAKE OF FIRE.** (Matthew 7:21-23; Revelation 20:11-15).

SOME COMMON VIEWS OF SALVATION HELD BY SOME PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE CHRISTIANS:

- Salvation cannot be certain by anyone
- Salvation will eventually come to all people (Universalism)
- Salvation can be earned by merit or good works
- Salvation can be obtained through religious activity such as baptism, the sacraments, liturgy, or church membership
- Salvation is passed down through the family
- Salvation comes to those who just believe in God
- Salvation is received by those who are morally good

EVERYONE OF THESE VIEWS IS WRONG AND ALL WHO HOLD ANY OF THESE VIEWS WILL DIE IN THEIR SIN AND SPEND ETERNITY IN HELL. *What do YOU believe about salvation?* Today would be a time to examine what you believe and make certain that it aligns with the Scripture. For a few minutes we are going to look at **REALITY OF BIBLICAL SALVATION.**

I. SALVATION FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

"SALVATION IS THE WHOLE WORK OF GOD BY WHICH HE RESCUES MAN FROM THE ETERNAL RUIN AND DOOM OF SIN AND BESTOWS ON HIM THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE, INCLUDING ETERNAL LIFE NOW AND ETERNAL GLORY IN HEAVEN."

-Jonah 2:9 - "SALVATION IS OF THE LORD"

-Isaiah 12:2 "GOD IS MY SALVATION"

- A. God Planned Salvation - (Before the world began) - 2 Timothy 1:9
- B. God Performed Salvation - (Through Jesus Christ) - John 3:16
- C. God Presented Salvation - (Through the Scriptures) - 2 Timothy 3:15

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1) Why should God want to save sinners?
- 2) Why should God bear the pain of giving His only Son to die for people who had rebelled against His goodness?
- 3) What could it possibly mean to God to have a family of human beings?

ANSWER: **The Bible gives at least four reasons why God wanted to save sinners:**

- 1) To Demonstrate His Love for Mankind - Romans 5:8
- 2) To Display His Grace for all Eternity - Ephesians 2:7
- 3) To Designate People to do His Work on Earth - Ephesians 2:10
- 4) To Disclose His Glory to All - 2 Timothy 4:18

II. SALVATION FROM MANKIND'S PERSPECTIVE

- A. The Problem We All Face (As being a part of the human race)
 1. We are ALL Born Sinners - Ecclesiastes 7:20; Psalm 51:5
 2. We are ALL Separated from God - Ephesians 2:12
 3. We are ALL Under the Wrath of God - Romans 1:18

B. The Process We All Follow (If we want God's Salvation)

NOTE: THIS PROCESS IS NOT A WORK FOR SALVATION.

1. We Must Recognize that we all have Sinned - Romans 3:23
2. We Must Respond to the Conviction of the Holy Spirit - John 16:7-11
3. We Must Repent from our Sin and Turn to God - Acts 3:19
4. We Must Receive Christ alone as our Savior - John 1:12

C. The Position We All Find (When we receive Salvation)

1. We are Made Accepted in the Beloved - Ephesians 1:6
2. We are Made Near to God - Ephesians 2:13
3. We are Made Members of the Family of God - Ephesians 2:19
4. We are Made a New Creation in Christ - 2 Corinthians 5:17
5. We are Made the Righteousness of God - 2 Corinthians 5:21
6. We are Made Complete in Christ - Colossians 2:10
7. We are Made Children of God - John 1:12

LESSON AND APPLICATION:

- 1) Be Certain you Have the biblical understanding of salvation as any other understanding of salvation is false.
- 2) Be Certain that you have received God's Gift of salvation that He has for you.
- 3) Be Certain that you share God's plan of salvation with others.