
Salvation And The New Birth

- In the last lesson, we explored who Jesus is according to the prophetic scriptures.
- We learned that He is the promised Messiah, the anointed one spoken about in Psalm 2.
- He was the promised “He” that would come to crush the head of His adversary and restore humanity back to the Father.
- Many people believed He was the Christ, the Son of God, and expected Him to establish His reign on Earth, just as the scriptures said He would.
- We learned how Jesus didn’t establish His Kingdom on Earth during His time here but rather He came to prepare for His coming Kingdom.
- We left off with a few questions:
 - What were the preparations for His coming Kingdom?
 - Is there anything we must do to be prepared?
 - How should we live in light of this truth?

In this lesson, we will explore the subject of salvation and attempt to answer some questions:

- What are we saved from?
- When are we saved?
- How are we saved?
- What are we saved for?
- Once saved, always saved?

What Does Salvation Mean To You?

If you are a believer, you may understand salvation as a being saved from hell and saved to come to Heaven to be with Jesus forever because He died for your sins and forgives you if you accept Him. This is probably the most popular understanding of salvation in the Church today.

Here is a quote from “GotQuestions.org”

A definition of the Christian doctrine of salvation would be “The deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God’s conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus.” Salvation is available

in Jesus alone ([John 14:6](#); [Acts 4:12](#)) and is dependent on God alone for provision, assurance, and security.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-doctrine-salvation.html>

- There is a far greater understanding of salvation and it behooves us to understand it as a foundation element to our faith.
- Let us dive deeper into this by asking these questions:
 - Are we saved from Hell?
 - Saved to go to Heaven?
 - Saved from sin?
 - Saved by Grace?
 - What about the verses in scripture that state we are saved by baptism?
 - Or saved by hope?
 - Or saved by enduring unto the end?
- How does this all work together?

The Two Salvations

The scripture teaches us about two salvations and these occur in the life of every believer. To understand these salvations, one must first need to know the framework of the Gospel. In the previous video, we talk about the Gospel story and what the good news was that was preached by all the Prophets, Apostles, and Christ Himself.

Hebrews 9:28

so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

The Gospel is the promise that a man would crush the head of the one who deceived the world into turning from the will of God, our creator. This man was the man Jesus and He has come to be our King and Savior. He came once to bear the sins of many but is coming again to save us.

The Gospel shows us that there are two ages, this present age and the age to come. Salvation is destined to take place both now and at the end of the age.

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Introduction To The Salvation Plan

This was not a foreign concept to the prophets or the apostles. Christ himself taught this in the time here on earth.

- These salvations are
 - The salvation at his first arrival
 - The salvation is yet to come at the return of Christ, the second time.

We are saved once in this present age and will be saved at the end of the age. These are the two salvation and it is important to have this framework cemented within you as part of your foundation.

It is important for a few reasons:

1. It will help you set your eyes to the coming salvation and you will not easily fall away before then. He who endures unto the end will be saved.
2. It will help you understand the written word more clearly. “Once saved, always saved?” “Can you lose your salvation?” “Does baptism save?” “Are we saved by works or grace?”
3. Helps you understand the gospel message more clearly, which is what we are saved by.

A passage from the Old Testament regarding the coming of the messiah shows us dual salvation. We will see how Jesus himself taught the two arrivals.

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting.

This passage is talking about the coming Messiah and what he would come to do. Let's look at what Jesus did when we read through this in the synagogue.

Luke 4:18-21

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD." And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

- Jesus stopped reading the passage after the description of His first arrival.
- His first coming was to proclaim the good news.
- To bring hope of restoration to the broken hearted and the faint.
- To proclaim recovery of sight to the blind.
- To proclaim liberty to the captives.
- Jesus stopped reading the passage before the context of His second arrival
- Second arrival is to bring comfort to those who mourn.

There is a dual purpose for the arrivals of the Lord.

Salvation At The First Arrival Of Christ

The first arrival of Christ to bring a salvation was the forerunner to the final and ultimate salvation that is to come at the end.

- God's intention for salvation was not to keep you out of Hell.
- God did not create humanity so they would go to Hell.
 - This wasn't the heart behind God's creation.
 - He didn't purpose in His heart to create a human being so He could keep them from a tortuous place of burning lake of fire.
- He created man in His image to be like Him. A creation in His image to be one with Him.
- He wanted to love them and they love Him back.
 - To be in a relational union with one another.
 - But man was torn from the hand of God.
 - John 10, Jesus says that He gives eternal life and no one can snatch them out of His hand.
 - Taken from His presence. Not because God wasn't able to keep him, but because man chose to leave.

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- God's love was so great, that He allowed man to leave home and receive his own reward of pleasure in this world.
- The salvation of God for man isn't to keep him from going to Hell. It's to restore him back to a "walking in the cool of the day" relationship.
- God isn't drawing us away from Hell. He is drawing closer to Him.
- Hell isn't the focus of God when it comes to salvation. It's the union between He and man.

Do I believe there is a Hell and that it is a punishment for those who do not come to Christ? Absolutely. Do I believe Jesus preached about Hell more than anyone and warn many that if they do not obey, they will be bound hand and foot and cast into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, where the worm does not die? Absolutely. Jesus warns us to not fear man but to fear God who can destroy both our bodies and souls in Hell.

- But God's desire is the same as it was in the beginning.
- His desire wasn't conceived by the thought of sending man to Hell.
- He wants us to be in love with Him.
- He wants to embrace us with His presence of love and compassion.
- His salvation is wrapped in the same desire.
- Not that he will save you from Hell but that He will save us from the deceiving power that separated us from the beginning.
- He will save us from the tempter, the accuser of the brethren, from the enemy that will be crushed one day for his pride and disobedience.
- God wants reconciliation for all man.
 - For man to return to Him in the same state as in the beginning.

And though we were lost in our sin, God was on His throne preparing the "He" to get His creation to be pure once again. The only way was to come against the power of the one who holds their bondage.

- A house divided against itself will not last so one who is not of the same house must be the one to come wage war against the enemy.
- In our flesh, we are enemies of God.
- So God has to come himself, being pure and righteous in all His ways.
- So Jesus came in the likeness of man, but without falling in sin.
- The sacrifice of Jesus was the power that destroy the grips of death because Jesus had no sin accounted to His name.
- Death only comes upon those who have sinned for death is the wages of sin.

- Jesus' death was an innocent death over which death had no power. Through that type of death, death itself handed over it's power.
- Jesus' sacrifice of suffering and death has given Him righteous authority over the blanket of deception over the eyes of every created human to remove it.
- This freedom or salvation brings us into the desire of God for union and fellowship.

Jesus came to save us from:

- Body of death **Romans 7:24**
- Our blind mind because of the god of this age. (**2 Corinthians 4:4** god of this age).
- Body of sin **Romans 6:6**
- From the law of sin **Romans 7:23**
- This perverse generation. **Acts 2:40**

Can you see it? Jesus came to save us from the captivity of sin. He didn't come to remove us from this world but to remove the body of this deadly curse in the world that we may go and save others. Our salvation while in this perverse generation is so we can reach the ends of the world in the process Jesus will make us more and more into the image of Himself that we were made to have from the beginning. He wants to purify us while in this world for His glory.

John 17:13-21

"But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

- The sanctification process is why Jesus came to remove the body of sin from us.
- Remember that this is all in preparation for His arrival and establishing His Kingdom
 - His Kingdom will be a kingdom of righteousness.
 - No righteousness will enter

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- Our salvation from sin is not the same salvation that brings us into the Kingdom at His return.
- This salvation is another salvation that we must eagerly be awaiting.
 - Ezekiel 20:33

Salvation At The Second Return Of Christ

- The ultimate salvation that is destined for humanity is salvation from the wrath of God's judgment on the world.
- God's wrath is towards His enemies who have turned from Him and who have caused others to turn.
- This is the good news to all those who have chosen to live righteous in this age of perversion.
- From the beginning, God's promise was to crush the head of the deceiver, the serpent of old, Satan.
- This crushing of the head is still to be completed.

And at this time, all God's people will be saved. When Judge who will place judgment on the living and the dead comes, all those found to be blameless and without spot or wrinkle will be saved.

God is looking for a people that have chosen the tree of Life in this age to dwell with him forever. The choosing of Life unto eternal life doesn't happen in one event during a prayer meeting and when someone says a prayer to follow Jesus. It happens during a lifetime of wandering in this perverse generation with a fixed hope at the return of the savior who will ultimately save you from the destruction to come upon all flesh. It is a life of suffering.

He who endures unto the end will be saved. Not he who said a one-time prayer or even one who gets baptized alone will be saved. But he who endures unto the end. The end of what? The end of your life or the end of this age, whatever comes first.

Isaiah 25:7-10 And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, Even the veil which is stretched over all nations. He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken. And it will be said in that day, "Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation." For the

hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain, And Moab will be trodden down in his place As straw is trodden down in the water of a manure pile.

Isaiah 45:15-19

Truly, You are a God who hides Himself, O God of Israel, Savior! They will be put to shame and even humiliated, all of them; The manufacturers of idols will go away together in humiliation. Israel has been saved by the LORD With an everlasting salvation; You will not be put to shame or humiliated To all eternity. For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), "I am the LORD, and there is none else. "I have not spoken in secret, In some dark land; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek Me in a waste place ' ; I, the LORD, speak righteousness, Declaring things that are upright.

The prophetic passages speak strongly of a coming salvation that we have not yet seen happen, even through the salvation through the Cross.

- Swallow up the covering
 - Blinded the minds by the god of this age
- Will wipe tears from ALL faces
 - *Revelation 21: 1-4 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among the people, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."*
- ON that day, it will be said.. This is whom we have waited for.
 - This is the day of the Lord. We will talk later about this.
- They will be put to shame.
 - There is a taste and see but it will be greater
- You will not be put to shame

Old Covenant Passages

Salvation Is Near

Psalm 85:9

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

Isaiah 46:13

"I bring near My righteousness, it is not far off; And My salvation will not delay. And I will grant salvation in Zion, And My glory for Israel.

Isaiah 51:5

"My righteousness is near, My salvation has gone forth, And My arms will judge the peoples; The coastlands will wait for Me, And for My arm they will wait expectantly.

Let's Eagerly Await The Lord

Our heart postures should be set to eagerly wait for King Jesus to come. However, the scriptures are clear in John 3:5, that unless you are born again, you will not enter the Kingdom. There is a salvation you must have now in order to enter the coming Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God coming is another salvation that will not automatically happen simply because you are born again. This salvation comes through endurance unto the end. Comes with eagerly waiting for Him.

It's one thing to be saved from your sin, but how are you living your life according to the truth until that day?

- Are you living in righteousness
- Are you living according to the way.
- Are you living through suffering for the name of Christ?

The born again experience will help us understand this type of lifestyle. Let's get deeper.