

LIFE QUESTIONS



What Is Salvation

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Salvation is a great and all inclusive word, which involves everything that God has done for us through the sinless life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. It speaks of the forgiveness of sins which God remembers no more, it embraces the deliverance from the curse and penalty of sin, including God's wrath against all mankind, to transform all believers into the image and likeness of His Son Jesus. Yet many miss out on the benefits which Jesus purchased for all mankind, because their knowledge and understanding of the scriptures is limited or defective.

The Bible teaches that everyone has sinned and cannot match up to God's ideal, irrespective of their best efforts. No matter how hard they may try - everyone deserves death (Rom 6:23) and God's wrath (Rom 5:9) because no one could keep the Law (Rom 4:15) including the commandments! Humankind needed help, because they couldn't help themselves. Good works, or self effort amounts to nothing as far as salvation is concerned. It is a gift of God which is given by His grace (Eph 2:8-9).

Salvation impacts and influences the whole individual - body and soul, including the mind, will, emotions and personality! It's main emphasis is spiritual in nature to rescue us from eternal death, sin and judgement. The Greek word 'sozo' from which we get the word salvation, has been translated throughout scripture as deliverance from demons, physical healing, being made whole, providing protection, preserving life, providing peace and the deliverance from the guilt and penalty of sin. In addition, salvation in its scope covers the past (Titus 3:5-7), present (1 Cor 1:18) and future (Rom 8:23f).

In short, for all true believers who have faith in Christ and His sacrificial death, resurrection and ascension, salvation is the removal of everything that is associated with evil both morally and physically; and includes eternal relationship with God which begins now, bringing healing, provision, deliverance, assurance in who they are, as well as making room for the Holy Spirit to produce His kind of fruit - love, joy, peace, patience etc. It is possible for everyone to have this kind of relationship with God.

If a believer lives with guilt, condemnation, fear etc. then they haven't grasped the importance, significance and implications of salvation. Such individuals, are unable to benefit from everything Christ accomplished for them without receiving a revelation on this subject.