
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPPING MINISTRIES
Institute in the Foundations of Church Leadership
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WHAT IS SALVATION?/AM I SAVED?

Session 1

INTRODUCTION

Jesus teaches us that the road that leads to life, or salvation, is small and narrow, then he says that many people who say to him, “Lord, Lord...” will NOT enter heaven. How can you know if you are saved and if you will go to heaven? (Matthew 7:13-23; 13:18-25)

I. WHAT IS SALVATION? (Romans 6:23)

The required payment for sin is death (both physical and spiritual), but the gift of God is eternal life. This is salvation.

II. WHO IS GOD? (Acts 17:24-28)

- A. God is the creator of the universe, our world, and everything in the world. He does not live in man-made structures (e.g., gold, silver, wood, or stone). He is able to be everywhere at once, and also be in one place at the same time (omnipresent). (vs. 24, 29-30; Psalm 139:7-10)
- B. God does not need anything. (v. 25)
- C. God gives us life and breath and everything else. (v. 25; Genesis 2:7)
- D. God determines the times and placement for every person in every nation. (v. 26)
- E. God wants a relationship with us – His creation. He is not far off. (v. 27)
- F. Because of Him, we live and move and have our existence. (v. 28)
- G. God is holy and righteous, and He does not tolerate sin. (Psalm 111:3; Isaiah 51:1-2; Psalm 5:4-5)

III. WHAT IS OUR RESPONSE TO HIM (Romans 1:20-32)

- Mankind pushes God away. We do not want to admit that God is God. This is sin.
- A. People know there is a god, but they do not want to admit that God is God. (vs. 20-21)
- B. People worship other gods and other things. (vs. 22-23)
- C. People would rather believe what they want to believe, instead of God’s truth. (v. 25)
 - 1. We want to believe our cultural traditions, and what we can see (animals, money, trees, plants, idols, etc.)
- D. People would rather worship and serve created things, rather than the God who created them. (v. 25)
- E. Because people do not want to admit that God is God, they do the following things:
 - 1. Act out in sexual immorality, degrading their bodies (v. 24)
 - 2. Are controlled by shameful lusts, and in some cases, homosexuality. (vs. 26-27)
 - 3. Are filled with wickedness, greed, envy, murder (hate/anger), strife, and deceit. (vs. 28-29)
 - 4. Are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, disrespectful, arrogant, and boastful. (v. 30)
 - 5. Disobey their parents. (v. 30)
 - 6. Are senseless, faithless, heartless and ruthless. (vs. 30-31)

IV. SIN'S RESULT

- A. We are slaves to sin. Sin, the things we do and think that do not please God, has become our master. (Romans 6:16)
- B. Sin results in spiritual death. (Ephesians 2:1-2)
- C. Sin separates us from God, which makes it impossible for us to have a relationship with Him the way we were created to. (Ephesians 4:18)
- D. Mankind was made to live forever. When a person's body dies, their soul continues to live somewhere: either heaven or hell forever. (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)
- E. Sin results in physical death. (Hebrews 9:27)
- F. God will judge everyone for their sin. (Romans 2:5-9)
- H. Hell is a real place, and it is a just punishment for rejecting God and His Word. (Matthew 25:41, 46)

V. GOD'S ANSWER FOR MAN'S SIN

- A. Because God wants a relationship with us, He made a way that was acceptable to Him for us to have a right relationship with Him (reconciliation).
 - 1. God gave His only Son, Jesus, as a gift to the world. (John 3:16)
 - 2. Jesus died in our place. (Romans 5:8)
 - 3. Jesus became the sacrifice that would pay the price to take our sin away. When He did this, it broke the chains of sin and death. (Hebrews 7:23-27)
- B. Why did God send Jesus to die in our place?
 - 1. God gave us Jesus because of His great love for us. (Ephesians 2:4; 1 John 4:9-10)
 - 2. God gave us Jesus to show us His goodness and mercy. (Titus 3:4-7)

VI. OUR PART

- A. Admit that you can't live without sinning.
 - 1. Everyone has sinned. One sin makes us a sinner. (Romans 3:23)
 - 2. The penalty of that sin is death – both spiritually and physically. (Romans 6:23)
- B. Believe in your heart that God sent Jesus to die on the cross as the payment for your sin.
 - 1. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, Jesus. (John 3:16)
 - 2. Jesus Christ died for us, paying the ultimate price for our sin. (Romans 5:8)
- C. Confess (say) that you want to be forgiven for your sins, and you want Jesus to be your Lord and Savior.
 - 1. Right relationship with God comes through faith in Jesus Christ. (Romans 3:22)
 - 2. Confess or proclaim Jesus as your Lord (Master) and Savior. (Romans 10:9)

VII. THE RESULT OF SALVATION (Ephesians 1:3-14; Colossians 1:21-22)

- A. We have been chosen by God, and He has made us holy and blameless. (v. 4)
- B. We have been adopted as sons and daughters into the family of God. (v. 5)
- C. We are now living in God's grace, not under His judgment. (v. 6)
- D. We have been redeemed (saved) and our sins are forgiven. (v. 7)
- E. God's Holy Spirit lives in us. (v. 13)
- F. Our souls will live forever with our Creator God; in our bodies now, and in heaven after our bodies die. (v.14) Our inheritance is with Christ. (Matthew 25:34)

CONCLUSION

Our Creator God made us for a relationship with Him that is based upon His love and our obedience. When we are willing to recognize and humbly admit our rebellion and sin against God, and believe that Jesus is the one and only way back to a right relationship with Him, we are forgiven for our sin and can have a personal relationship with God now. We will also spend eternity in heaven with Him.