

“So, What Do YOU Believe about...Salvation?” with Pastor Max Frazier

We believe that it is only through believing in the sacrificial death of Christ Jesus that one can experience salvation. In Christ we are set free from those sins that once enslaved us. We know this as “being born again.” We are adopted into the family of God.

INTRODUCTION

God has used a variety of arenas to bring people to a knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Salvation has inspired poets, hymn-writers, evangelists, preachers, story-tellers, and teachers.

Salvation was the theme of the apostles’ preaching.

Because of sin, man is helpless in and of himself to do anything to save himself.

Because of sin, man stands condemned before God.

Yet God intervened in order to bridge that deep gulf that separated Himself from man.

That bridge is known as the cross.

SALVATION IS... ATONEMENT

In the Old Testament, sins were dealt with through the sacrifice of an animal (*Leviticus 1:4*)

But were these sacrifices really effective in removing sin from a person’s life?
Hebrews 10:4

Romans 3:25

The blood of the slain animal covered sin, but did not remove sin.

Jesus Christ did not merely “cover up” our sins, He totally removed our sins.
John 1:29

Colossians 2:13-14

1 John 3:5

SALVATION IS... RECONCILIATION

Definition: “the act of bringing into harmony.”

Sinful man needed to be brought back into harmony with a holy God.

Man’s present condition:

Isaiah 59:2 – separated from God

Ephesians 2:1-2 – considered as being dead.

Because man could not cross that great gulf, God Himself crossed that gulf in the person of His Son. (*2 Corinthians 5:21, Ephesians 2:6*)

Because of reconciliation, we can say that our war with God is now finished. (*Romans 8:1-2*)

SALVATION IS... REDEMPTION

There are three Greek words that are all translated into English as “redemption”

“Agorazo” – “to buy in the marketplace” (*1 Corinthians 6:19-20*)

“Exagorazo” – “to buy out of the marketplace” (*Galatians 3:13*)

“Apolutrosis” – “to set free” (*Ephesians 1:7*)

SALVATION IS... JUSTIFICATION

Definition: "to declare one righteous"

"It is a judicial term indicating that a verdict of acquittal has been announced, and so excluding all possibility of condemnation." (Romans 5:16)

How are we justified?

It comes through faith

Romans 3:22, 25, 28, 30

Ephesians 2:8-9

How is justification different from forgiveness?

Forgiveness: cancellation of sin

Justification: receiving of righteousness

"When the article of justification has fallen, everything has fallen. This is the chief article from which all other doctrines have flowed. It alone begets, nourishes, builds, preserves, and defends the church of God; and without it the church of God cannot exist for one hour. It is the master and prince, the lord, the ruler, and the judge over all kinds of doctrines."

–Martin Luther

SALVATION IS... ADOPTION

Definition: "taking one person from one family and placing him in a new family."

Adoption necessarily involves a choosing.

God chose us before the creation of the world! (Ephesians 1:4-5)

Adoption means we have all the privileges of being a part of God's family.

SALVATION IS... SUBSTITUTION

It is this word that truly separates the biblical way of salvation from that offered by the world.

The world's offer of salvation: doing something for oneself; striving to please God through our works.

But we cannot save ourselves: Psalm 49:7-9

Christ died as our Substitute.

He paid the price we could not pay.

Mark 10:45

Matthew 20:28

First Peter 3:18

Isaiah 53:5-6

A CHALLENGE

We are saved through no merit of our own.

Salvation is not something we can inherit.

Salvation is not something that we can strive to earn.

Salvation is not something that someone else can do for us.

Salvation is something that only I can act upon.

*"Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it; Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed thro' His infinite mercy, His child, and forever I am.*

*Redeemed and so happy in Jesus, No language my rapture can tell; I know that
the light of His presence With me doth continually dwell.*

*I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long; I sing, for I
cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.*

*Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed,
redeemed, His child and forever I am." –Fanny Crosby, 1882*

