

Celebration Services (Oct. 7&8, 2006) Church Covenant Series (Pt. 3)
"A Biblical Understanding of The Doctrine of Salvation"

What is meant by "the Doctrine of Salvation"?

The doctrine of salvation explains the ministry of God in redeeming a people for His glory.

Why we should be committed to a Biblical Doctrine of Salvation:

The way we understand this doctrine will influence

- how we relate to God
- how we understand and relate to the church
- how we parent,
- how we worship,
- how we are transformed,
- how we relate to one another,
- how we spend our time and money,
- how we make decisions,
- how we relate to our feelings and circumstances,
- how we relate to the rest of the world.

An examination of The Doctrine of Salvation:

1. God's purpose =to have a people for His own possession

1 Tim. 3:15 uses the phrase "the household of God-the church of the living God"

- a people who are God's alone,
- a family who loves and worships God alone as Lord and Savior and Father,
- a people in whom He delights because they delight in Him.

Matt. 1:21 "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save **His people** from their sins."

1 Peter 2:10

Isaiah 51:4-7, God's salvation is for God's people.

When did God decide who would be His people==before He created them

Rom. 8:29

Foreknow=to know in an intimate and loving way, to know as a family member.

1Peter 1:20

Gal. 1:15

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew [foreknown] you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations."

God chose or elected His people by His grace alone for His glory alone.

John 17: 1-2

John 10:14-15 which sheep? His own, for the people whom God had would be His own.

2. Our need =to be redeemed

The wrath of God

Rom. 1:18-19 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth 1in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them

Rom. 2:5 But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God

How and when did we get into this mess?

Through Adam.

When Adam sinned we inherited the consequences and presence of sin were passed on to all of his "children".

1 Cor. 15:22 ...in Adam all die...

Rom. 5:12, 18-19 12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, so death spread to all men...18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men...19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners...

We became sinners by inheriting Adam's sin nature.

Eph. 2:3 ...[we are] by nature, children [deserving] of [God's] wrath...

As a result we are not alienated from God.=**Isaiah 59:2**

Our Sin has corrupted our hearts.= **Jer. 17:9**

All of our affections, motives, attitudes, desires, emotions, etc. have been poisoned by sin.

Rom. 3:10-18

Our sin has made us helpless and dead

Rom. 5:6; Matt. 19:25-26; Eph. 2:1-2

3. God's grace =He alone can redeem His people

For us to be redeemed, God must do the redeeming.

God must do the rescuing.

"How do we get God to rescue us"?

whoever will upon the Name of the Lord will be saved. [**Rom.10:13**]

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters [**Is. 55:1**]

the question is *"How can we call upon Him when we are dead and helpless in our sin"?*

WE CANNOT BECAUSE OUR HEARTS HAVE BEEN CORRUPTED BY SIN.

GOD MUST **UN** CORRUPT OUR HEARTS SO THAT WE WILL CALL ON HIM.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 =This what Jesus called being born again: **John 3:3-6**

God must first break our hearts in order to make our hearts.

NOTICE THAT ONLY AFTER RECEIVING A NEW HEART, AFTER BEGIN BORN AGAIN WE CAN AND WILL OBEY GOD.

Because NOW we want to

Eph. 2:8 for by grace [a new heart] you have been saved [God did it to you] by faith [our free will decision to say "yes" to God].

God has done all of this because of His love

Eph. 2:4-5

4. God's glory =the display of His grace in and through His people

Why does God save His people from their sin?

Eph. 1:6; 2:7, 3:10

Matt. 5:16 16

5. The result:

Isaiah 51:11

Rev. 21:3-4

the purpose of Jesus' birth was the crucifixion
the purpose of Jesus' crucifixion was the resurrection
the purpose of Jesus' resurrection was the ascension
the purpose of Jesus' ascension was His exaltation
the purpose of Jesus' exaltation was the Day of Pentecost
the purpose of Pentecost was the church on earth
the purpose of the church on earth was the church in heaven
the purpose of the church in heaven is the church around the Throne of God forever for the joy and pleasure of God over His gathered eternal family as "[we] shall see His Face" [Rev. 22:4]

Our commitment:

Commitment to the Doctrine of Salvation . . . Rom 3:10-12, 21-26; In 3:3-8, 16-21; Eph 2:1-10
- I agree that the Scripture teaches that all of humanity is in sin, needing to be reconciled to God and that the only means of reconciliation is through the person and work of Jesus Christ in His life, death, burial, and resurrection. I agree that an individual is saved by the grace of God apart from any personal good or meritorious work, that grace is received through faith, and that each individual must at some point repent and make a personal faith decision to personally accept God's work of grace. I agree that in conversion we are born-again, forgiven, reconciled to God, and receive the life of the Holy Spirit empowering us to respond to God's grace. Since the Scripture teaches that only those who are in Christ are part of His body, I commit to seek covenant membership after I have been born-again and am able to testify of my conversion to Christ.