

# LESSON 5 Salvation

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I was sitting in her little house when 95-year-old Amelia told me how she came to accept Jesus as her Savior.

Many years before she had stood at the doorway of a church in Latin America. She was afraid to enter, but listened intently as the preacher said, “Jesus is your Savior. He will save you from your sins. When you are in need, call on Jesus.”

That day she walked back up the hill and when she entered her room she heard a rustle. Suddenly, before she could run, a boa constrictor snake wrapped itself around her. She could see the large head in front of her face as it began to squeeze. Remembering the preacher’s words, she cried out in desperation, “Jesus, save me! Jesus, save me!” The snake loosened its coils, fell from her, and slithered out of the room.

That day Amelia not only thanked the Lord Jesus for saving her physically, but also asked Him to save her spiritually.

The same Lord Jesus that saved Amelia can save you. Let us study about this precious salvation and what you can do to obtain it.

## ***The Plan***

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- A. Definition of Salvation
- B. Initiation into Salvation
- C. Results of Salvation

## ***The Goals***

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- 1. Explain what salvation means.
- 2. Identify the basis for salvation.
- 3. Discuss some results of salvation.

### **A. DEFINITION OF SALVATION**

#### **Goal 1.** Explain what salvation means.

One day a young man from a university said to me, “There are many roads to salvation and heaven. Sincerity is the key to reaching heaven. You may believe whatever you wish as long as you are sincere.”

Was he right? Is being sincere enough? Or can a person be sincerely mistaken?

The Bible is very clear in saying that freedom from sin comes only through Jesus Christ, Revelation 1:5 says that Jesus loves us, and by his death he has freed us from our sins.

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

So, in defining salvation we can say that it is pardon from sin, but we must add “through the death of Jesus Christ.”

Who needs this salvation? As previously studied, everyone has sinned and been sentenced to eternal death or separation from God. Ezekiel 18:4 warns, “The soul who sins is the one who will die.” And Romans 3:23 reads, “All have sinned and

fall short of the glory of God.” Every human being is in need of forgiveness of sin and pardon through Jesus Christ.

## ***Application***

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**1** Circle the letter in front of the verses that tell us that salvation comes through Jesus Christ.

- a)** Luke 19:10
- b)** Romans 5:8
- c)** Romans 1:16
- d)** Galatians 1:4

**2** Salvation means

- a)** being sincere in whatever we believe.
- b)** freedom from sin through Jesus Christ.

**3** Circle the letter in front of the TRUE statements.

- a)** Only those who harm others need salvation.
  - b)** There are many roads to God and heaven.
  - c)** Good men will be saved.
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## **B. INITIATION INTO SALVATION**

**Goal 2.** Identify the basis for salvation.

A few years after the resurrection of Jesus, the writer of Acts tells the story of a jailer who was very frightened because there had been an earthquake and he thought some of his prisoners were escaping. Two of them, Paul and Silas, were followers of Christ.

Paul and Silas quickly assured the jailer that no prisoners were getting away. Then the jailer, seeing that God had worked a miracle, asked how he could be saved. The answer the believers gave him was very simple. It is found in Acts 16:31, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” So the first step that must be taken to enter salvation is to believe in the Lord Jesus.

In what way must we believe? We must accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior and depend on Him to take us to heaven.

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:31)

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior we must also turn from sin. We must repent and ask God to forgive us and make us clean. If we ask Him to do this, we must also trust that He does forgive and cleanse us. First John 1:9 advises, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

This acceptance of Jesus as Lord and Savior is done simply by talking to Him as you would to a friend. If you have never taken this step, tell God that you want to accept the forgiveness He offers. Perhaps you could say in your own words something like:

Dear Father, I recognize that I am a sinner.  
I’m sorry for my sin and ask your forgiveness.  
Cleanse me and keep me from all wrongdoing. I  
accept the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus who died  
for me. I take Him now as my Lord and Savior.  
Thank you. Amen.

Once you have sincerely prayed this, you can trust that your sins are forgiven! You can praise and thank God that you belong to Him, that you are His child.

## ***Application***

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- 4** Romans 1:16 says that salvation is for everyone who
- a)** lives according to the rules.
  - b)** believes.
  - c)** is wealthy.
- 5** According to Acts 16:31 and John 20:31, belief for salvation must be in the
- a)** Lord Jesus.
  - b)** disciples who were saints.
  - c)** traditions of your church.
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## C. RESULTS OF SALVATION

**Goal 3.** Discuss some results of salvation.

What happens to you when you accept salvation? A definite spiritual change, a transformation, takes place. Second Corinthians 7:10 says, “Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.” Paul wrote earlier, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17). This change can be seen in several ways. Sometimes a person’s attitude toward life changes from sad to happy, or perhaps he now loves someone he could not love before.

There can also be physical transformations. Those who have been bound by habits such as alcoholism can be set free. The Lord is powerful to make any changes necessary in the person who now believes on Him.

To accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior also means to be born into the family of God. This is what Jesus meant when He said in John 3:3 that we should be born again.

John writes of Jesus,

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (1:12–13)

The Bible also speaks of adoption which brings out a similar relationship. By adoption we are received into God’s family. God makes us His children, giving us all the rights of inheritance that belong to the sons of God.

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (Romans 8:16–17).

Being in the family of God is special. This is why you will hear Christians call each other “brother” or “sister.” This is a way of saying, “We belong to the same family.”

Can we be sure of our salvation? One day a young woman asked for prayer. She told me that when she accepted Christ as her Savior she had felt so wonderful, so full of joy. Now she did not feel that way and wanted to know why she had “lost her salvation.” We know that we are not saved by feeling, but by taking God at His Word.

If we have met the conditions that the Bible gives us for salvation, we must believe we are saved no matter what we feel. The Holy Spirit can speak this assurance to our hearts also. We can find reassurance from our brothers and sisters in Christ, too, like my friend did the day she came to me.

We know that we have passed from death to life,  
because we love our brothers. (1 John 3:14)

Perhaps you have heard Christians use the words justification and sanctification. What do these mean? Justification is being free from sin, made righteous. It is a result of salvation. God forgives our sin, takes away all guilt and says that we are now righteous—just as if we had never done anything wrong. Romans 5:1 tells us, “Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Being put right with God is justification.

Sanctification means being made holy, that is, clean from sin and dedicated to God. The apostle Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica,

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify  
you through and through. May your whole spirit,  
soul and body be kept blameless at the coming  
of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

God wants all Christians to be sanctified, made holy. Paul also noted, “It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality” (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

“Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14).

There is another point that should be touched upon while talking of the results of Jesus’ death on the Cross. This is divine healing. Divine healing was included in the benefits Jesus bought for us on Calvary.

Many who were demon-possessed were brought to him [Jesus], and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.” (Matthew 8:16–17)

Isaiah 53:5 records, “By his [Jesus’] wounds we are healed.” Divine healing is the supernatural power of God bringing health to the human body. James 5:14–15 tells us how we can claim this healing:

Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up.

## ***Application***

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- 6** Circle the letters in front of the correct answers to this question. Which of the following are results of salvation?
- a)** Transformation
  - b)** Adoption or “being born again”
  - c)** Justification
  - d)** Sanctification
  - e)** Access to divine healing

**7** Read the words in the left column. Write in front of each the number of the definition in the right column that matches it.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ... <b>a</b> Transformation | 1) Being made holy               |
| ... <b>b</b> Sanctification | 2) Health by supernatural means  |
| ... <b>c</b> Justification  | 3) A complete change             |
| ... <b>d</b> Divine healing | 4) Becoming part of God's family |
| ... <b>e</b> Adoption       | 5) Being made righteous          |
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## ***Check Your Answers***

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- 1** Circle all the letters because each of the references tells us that salvation comes through Jesus Christ.
- 5 a)** Lord Jesus.
- 2 b)** freedom from sin through Jesus Christ.
- 6** You should circle all the letters because they are all results of salvation.
- 3** You should not circle any of the choices. None is true.
- 7 a** 3) A complete change  
**b** 1) Being made holy  
**c** 5) Being made righteous  
**d** 2) Health by supernatural means  
**e** 4) Becoming part of God's family
- 4 b)** believes

