

**Lesson 2**  
**According to the Authority**  
**of the Scriptures**

# **Salvation**

based on work by John Isaac Edwards

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## Introduction

1. Man is lost in sin and cannot save himself by himself alone. (Jeremiah 10:23, pg. 881) Therefore, God has made salvation available to all men (Titus 2:11, pg. 1370)
2. Men teach many conflicting ideas about salvation, but God's plan for saving man is simple and clearly revealed in the New Testament.

## Discussion

### I. Why We Need A Plan

- A. **Because we are sinners.** "*for \_\_\_\_\_ all have \_\_\_\_\_ and fall short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23, pg. 1296). "*Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.*" (1John 3:4, pg. 1400) Sins are not inherited, but are committed as we violate God's law.
- B. **Because sin leads to death.** "*For the wages of sin is \_\_\_\_\_*..." (Romans 6:23, pg. 1299). The death here is spiritual, that is, eternal separated from God in hell. To avoid this death our sins must be forgiven by God.
- C. **Because goodness alone does not save.**
  1. Man has to obey the Lord to be saved. Goodness alone did not save Cornelius. From Acts (10:2, pg. 1265), list four things which show that Cornelius was a good moral man.  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_
  2. We know that Cornelius was not a saved man for the scripture says that Peter had to come "who will tell you "\_\_\_\_\_, by which you and all your household will be saved" (Acts 11:14, pg. 1267) This *devout, God fearing, giving and praying man, had to hear words to the saving of his soul.*
- D. **Because man must do what the Lord commands.**
  1. Jesus said, "*Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but \_\_\_\_\_ the will of My Father in heaven.*" (Matthew 7:21, pg. 1118)
  2. Jesus is "*the author of eternal salvation to all who \_\_\_\_\_ Him*" (Hebrews 5:9, pg. 1376)
  3. Man, being a free moral agent, has the right to choose to obey the Lord and be saved, or to reject what the Lord said and "*These shall be \_\_\_\_\_ with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power*" (2Thessalonians 1:9, pg. 1360)

### II. The Divine Side in God's Plan

- A. There are some things that God has already done for us to make salvation available.
  1. **God sent His Son.** "*For God so loved the world that He \_\_\_\_\_ His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*" (John 3:16, pg. 1223)
  2. **God bestowed His grace.** "*For by \_\_\_\_\_ you have been saved through \_\_\_\_\_, and that not of \_\_\_\_\_; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*" (Ephesians 2:8-9, pg. 1343-1344)
  3. **Jesus shed His blood.** "*In Him we have redemption through His \_\_\_\_\_, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace*" (Ephesians 1:7, pg. 1343)

4. **The Holy Spirit revealed God's will to man.** <sup>3</sup>*how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, <sup>4</sup>by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), <sup>5</sup>which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets*" (Ephesians 3:3-5, pg. 1344)

**This revelation is the gospel.** *"For I am not ashamed of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, for it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God to \_\_\_\_\_ for everyone who believes..."* (Romans 1:16, pg. 1294)

B. God has done His part and requires that man now does his part to complete the process of salvation.

### III. The Human Part in Salvation

A. **Hear the Gospel.** *"...This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, \_\_\_\_\_ Him"* (Matthew 17:5, pg 1132). Romans 10:17, (pg. 1303) teaches that we must hear the word in order to have faith. *"So then \_\_\_\_\_ comes by \_\_\_\_\_, and hearing by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God."*

B. **Faith is Christ.** *"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you \_\_\_\_\_ believe that I am He, you will die in your sins"* (John 8:24, pg. 1232). Some teach that man is saved by faith alone, but the New Testament, God's Word, does not teach that faith or anything else by itself will save us. In fact the only place in the entire Bible that uses the words faith only is in the book of James where he said, *"You see then that a man is justified by works, and \_\_\_\_\_ by faith only"* (James 2:24, pg. 1387).

The faith that saves is the type of faith like Noah and Abraham who out of love for God were – lead to obey His words.

C. **Repentance of sins.** *"Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now \_\_\_\_\_ all men everywhere to \_\_\_\_\_"* (Acts 17:30, pg. 1277)

An example of repentance is found in Matthew 21:28-31 (pg. 1138) What did the son do after he regretted his sin? (v.29) \_\_\_\_\_.

We must change from the things of the world (sin) to the things of Christ (righteousness). This is not perfection, but a sincere desire for the right things of God in our life.

D. **The Confession.** *"Therefore whoever \_\_\_\_\_ Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 10:32, pg. 1122) Also *"that if you \_\_\_\_\_ with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* (Romans 10:9, pg. 1303)

There is an example of the confession being made in Acts 8:36-38 (pg. 1263).

The eunuch did not confess his sins, as some denominations today teach, but what did he confess? \_\_\_\_\_

E. **Baptism.** *"He who believes and is \_\_\_\_\_ will be \_\_\_\_\_: but he who does not believe will be condemned."* (Mark 16:16, pg. 1176) It was Peter writing by inspiration from God who wrote, *"There is also an antitype which now saves us—\_\_\_\_\_..."* (1Peter 3:21, pg. 1393)

1. The purpose of baptism is to *"...\_\_\_\_\_ away sins..."* (Acts 22:16, pg. 1284) of as Peter put it *"...Let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of sins..."* (Acts 2:38, pg 1254)

This is the only reason any person should be baptized.

2. Baptism is **not** just “an outward sign of an inward grace or experience” as most denominations teach today, but is an act of obedience required by God in order to become a Christian.
  3. Baptism is a burial (immersion) in water; not a pouring of sprinkling. The very word baptism itself means: [I dip, submerge, but specifically of ceremonial dipping; I baptize: Stong’s Concordance]  
*“3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were \_\_\_\_\_ with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life”* (Romans 6:3-4, pg 1298)  
 Notice, in Acts 8:36-39 (pg. 1263), that they came to some water (v.36), went down into the water, he was baptized [immersed] (v.38), and then they came up out of the water (v.39). This is a vivid illustration of a baptism/immersion which was done as a result of Philips preaching Jesus (v.35).
  4. So at this point the eunuch came in contact with the blood of Jesus which He shed in death, and the eunuch’s sins were washed away and he is now baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:27, pg 1339).
  5. Can you clearly see that baptism is essential to salvation? \_\_\_\_\_
- F. **Be Faithful.** After one has obeyed the gospel, he or she then is added to the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:47, pg. 1255) *“And the Lord added to the \_\_\_\_\_ daily those who were being saved.”*  
 Now as a Christian and a member of the Lord’s church, one must remain faithful in worshipping God, purity of life, and working for the Lord. *“...Be \_\_\_\_\_ until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”* (Revelation 2:10B, pg 1408) One must be *“...\_\_\_\_\_, immovable, \_\_\_\_\_ abounding in the work of the Lord...”* (1Corinthians 15:58, pg. 1325)
1. Many Christians are not faithful. They sin and slip back into the world. Their condition is described in Galatians 5:4 (pg. 1341) *“You have become \_\_\_\_\_ from Christ... you have \_\_\_\_\_ from grace.”* FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN FAITH TO OBEY THE LORD (Colossians 1:23, pg.1353)
  2. When a Christian is overtaken in a sin, (and it happens), God requires that person to repent, confess their sin, and pray for forgiveness: Read: (Acts 8:13-22, pg. 1262-1263) *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1John 1:9, pg. 1398)
  3. We all make mistakes. When we sin publicly, we need to make public confession. Private sins can be taken care of privately, between God and yourself.

## Conclusion

1. This is not our plan, but God’s plan for all mankind. Since salvation belongs to the Lord (Psalms 3:8, pg. 618), we do not have any right to change the plan God gave to us.
2. We need to accept the only authority, the word of God, believe and obey it. Today!