

# The Doctrine of Salvation

A Study of the Ordo Salutis

July 1 – Oct. 28, 2018

# The Ordo Salutis

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# Death of the Body

For those who have been called and justified, our final state will be glorification. However, before that happens (unless we are alive when Christ returns) we will die. We will put off this fleshly body and it will be left in the grave to decay naturally. Dust to dust. At the same time our spirit will go to be with the Lord. This is called the Intermediate State.

Luke 23:43 And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

2 Cor. 5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

Phil. 1:23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

# Why Do Christians Die?

- Death for the believer is not the penalty for sin, as that has been paid in full by Christ. Romans 8:1
- Death for the believer is the final outcome of living in a fallen world and it is required for being fit for life in the new heavens and new earth.
- 1 Cor. 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

# Why Do Christians Die?

- We must also remember that our obedience to God is more important than preserving our earthly lives. Just as Christ was obedient to death, even death on the cross (Phil. 2:8), so we may be called and appointed to die for Christ.
- Acts 21:13 Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”
- Revelation 2:10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

# How Should Christians View Death?

- For the believer, death is an occasion for joy and gain. Even as we also grieve, we have hope. Our death, we are told, is precious in God's sight (Psalm 116:15).
- Phil. 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.
- Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."
- 1 Thess. 4:13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

# What Happens When People Die?

- The souls of believers go immediately into the presence of God in heaven.
- 2 Cor. 5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.
- There is no purgatory or soul sleep. These doctrines are heresy and rejected by orthodox Christianity.
- The souls of unbelievers go immediately into everlasting punishment.
- Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment
- Matthew 25:41 “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:...46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’”

# Glorification: Our Final Salvation

Glorification refers to the final salvation of persons, both body and soul/spirit. It is a radical and supernatural transformation where both our body and soul are perfected in holiness and made fit for eternal life on the new earth.

Murray says it is “the complete and final redemption of the whole person, when in the integrity of the body and spirit the people of God will be conformed to the image of the risen, exalted, and glorified Redeemer, when the very body of their humiliation will be conformed to the body of Christ’s glory.”



# Resurrection

The resurrection is the final consummation of salvation, as the Spirit applies the completion of redemption that the Father planned and that Christ purchased.

John 6:39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

This is also the fulfillment of Christ’s desire to see His church purified.

Ephesians 5:27 ...that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

# Resurrection

The hope of glorification motivated and sustained Paul when his natural body was mistreated, persecuted, and chained.

2 Cor. 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Romans 8:23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

# Resurrection

Even Job found hope in glorification. Job 19:25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, 27 Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Daniel 12:2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt.

John 11:24 Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

Acts 24:14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. 15 I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

# Made Alive in Him

1 Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

1 Cor. 15:45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

1 Cor. 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

# Death Destroyed

1 Cor. 15: The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

1 Cor. 15:54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” 55 “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

# Glorified Bodies

Christ will not replace our physical body, but He will renovate it! Changed, not exchanged.

1 Cor. 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Phil. 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

# Glorified Bodies

1 Cor. 15:42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Imperishable

Marked by Glory

Raised in Power

Spiritual

# The End, to be continued...

- The entire Creation will be renewed as well.
- Romans 8:21 the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
- The unbelieving dead will be resurrected for the Final Judgment and cast into the Lake of Fire forever.
- Glorified believers will spend eternity praising and serving God in the new heavens and new earth.
- Revelation 21:4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.” 6 And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.