

God revealed in Creation that He is a powerful and personal God (**Romans 1:20**). Behind Creation is the Creator. Man is **“without excuse”** because he is created with an innate God-consciousness. But God did not just give us Creation. He gave us a revelation: a special revelation in the Word of God (**Job 33:23-30**).

Salvation – Is the deliverance of the repentant and believing sinner by God’s grace, bringing him into a right relationship with God, and bestowing upon him the rich benefits of His grace.

Key verse: John 5:24 “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”

Luke 18:9-14 – The parable of the Pharisee and Publican. (v.13) **“God be merciful to me a sinner.”**

John 1:12 – *“But as many as **received** him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that **believe** on his name:”* – To receive is to believe. To believe is to receive. Receiving and/or believing results in us becoming the sons of God. The order: receive (believe) results in regeneration (new birth). Two responsibilities: Repentance and Faith – the dead sinner has the capability to do both. Man is accountable.

Luke 16:28 – *“For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, **lest** they also come into this place of torment. (v.30) ...they will **repent**.”* The rich man wasn’t a Calvinist! Rather, he was there exclusively because of his own culpability.

1 John 2:2 – *“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and **not for ours only**, but also for the sins of the **whole world**.”* - Christ died for all of mankind – the sins of the whole world (1 Tim. 4:10; 2 Peter 2:1).

Acts 2:37-38 - *“Now when they **heard** this, they were **pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? (v.38) Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for** the remission of sins, and ye shall receive **the gift** of the Holy Ghost.”* – Peter cites Joel 2, and applied it to the Lord Jesus Christ, and as he was doing this the Spirit of God convicted their hearts. They wanted to know what they could do in order to get saved. Peter’s message is **repent**. Repentance is turning away from sin to Christ. The baptism follows repentance. Baptism is **“for”** or **“because of”** or **“on the basis of”** the remission of sins. The gift of the Holy Ghost is salvation (regeneration) (v.39). (v.40 – you save yourself by meeting God’s condition – the context is repentance). (v.41 – they gladly received Peter’s message about Jesus Christ as the Messiah). They repented and received the word of God, and then they were baptized! (And subsequently, the 3,000 were added to the 125 through believer’s baptism, which is the church at Jerusalem, see v.42, 47).

1 Peter 1:2-5 *“(v.2) **Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. (v.3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy **hath begotten us again** unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (v.4) To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, **reserved in heaven for you**, (v.5) Who are **kept** by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”* – **“Election”** is based on the foreknowledge of God, the sanctification of the Spirit, and the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. The Triune God, **“hath begotten us again”** which is that at some point in the past we were regenerated (born again or reborn). Salvation is **reserved** means it has been reserved and it is still reserved even today. **“Kept”** by the power of God through faith unto salvation. Who is keeping us? What is our responsibility in all of this? To live by faith (condition & responsibility). Relationship doesn’t change because of sin but fellowship can be hurt because of sin. Have you been saved?