

Subject: *Our Savior Jesus Christ*

Subject: *2 Timothy 1:8-11*

The question of being saved is the supreme question of the Bible. Salvation is the main subject of the Old and New Testaments. Throughout the OT, the Savior was promised and in the NT the Savior came and provided the perfect sacrifice for sins. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus Christ is the one and only Savior for the world.

1. The WHO of salvation

My mother came home from the Cambridge House last Wednesday and things didn't start out so well. She fell in her living room about 1:30 Thursday morning, but thankfully was not injured. But the fall was very traumatic and she was still shaking over an hour after the fall and almost as if she was having a dream she kept saying, "Somebody help me." I said, "Mom, I'm right here." God reminded me what it means to need a Savior and what it means to have a Savior.

The Bible reveals that Jesus is the only Savior. This speaks of His deity. In the OT the title Savior (Heb. *Yeshua*) is found 78 times and is used only of God. In the NT the title is used 24 times of Jesus. Jesus is the promised Savior and the only Savior for the whole world.

Luke 2:11 *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:29-30²⁹ *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: ³⁰ For mine eyes have seen thy salvation.*

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

John 3:17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

1 Timothy 2:5 *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*

Acts 4:12 *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

1 John 4:14 *And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.*

One of the early symbols of the Christian faith was the fish symbol. You may think that came from Christ's statement that His disciples would be fishers of men, but that's not what it signified. The fish symbol was actually a shorthand version of an ancient confession of faith. The Greek word for fish (*ichthus*) was an acronym that stood for this: "Jesus is the Christ, God's Son and our Savior."

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all involved in salvation. The Father planned salvation. Christ purchased salvation, and the Holy Spirit applies salvation.

2. The WHAT of salvation

What does salvation mean? Salvation means to rescue or deliver someone from danger, death, or some terrible situation. We say, “The fireman saved that person’s life.” A boxer is said to be “saved by the bell” or a person was “saved in the nick of time.” If we ask someone: “Are you saved?” The other person may be thinking, “Saved from what?” When the Bible speaks of being saved it usually means to be saved in the spiritual and eternal sense. It is more than a physical rescue from a temporary danger. It is a spiritual rescue from an eternal danger. It is a rescue from God’s judgment and eternal punishment in hell. It is that, but it is more than that...it is salvation from sin and all its consequences.

Matthew 1:21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

Salvation is a broad term that includes all that God does for lost sinners. It includes our election, calling, justification, sanctification, glorification, reconciliation, redemption, adoption, and regeneration.

When Jesus saves us, He gives all of us all of these blessings. There is no first-class or second-class salvation.

3. The WHEN of salvation

Salvation is not only a broad term that includes a lot of blessings, but it covers a wide range of time. We tend to think of salvation as being just one point in time, and that is when we receive Christ as our Lord and Savior. That is just one aspect of salvation called conversion. For example, there is the conversion of Zacchaeus in Luke 19.

Luke 19:9 *And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham.*

Salvation is actually a work that began long ago in the past and will be completed at some point in the future. So the time element of salvation is past, present, and future, and that’s why we find Bible verses like this:

Ephesians 2:8-9⁸ *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*⁹ *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

Philippians 2:12 *Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*

Romans 13:11 *And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.*

God is the author and finisher of our faith, so He is the one who commences the work of salvation, continues the work, and completes the work of salvation.

Philippians 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

Hebrews 7:25 *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

Salvation is God’s work from beginning to end. God never leaves something half done.

4. The WHY of salvation

As we come to this aspect of salvation, people are sometimes quick to assume that the main reason for salvation is that we are so important and valuable to God that He was determined to save us. That's not really surprising because we like to think we are the center of the universe and therefore what could possibly be more important than our salvation. But there is a much higher motivation...and that is the glory of God. Christ came to save sinners so that God would be glorified.

God's glory is the sum total of all His attributes: wisdom, power, love, holiness, righteousness, goodness, grace, mercy, faithfulness, unchangeableness, and patience.

1 Timothy 1:15-16 ¹⁵ *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.* ¹⁶ *Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.*