



The Foundations of our Faith – Salvation

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Module 1- Week 1 :

KEY VERSE: “Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name given to mankind by which we must be saved” ***Acts 4:12 NIV***

- *We will cover 3 main headings this week:-*

Introduction: Healing and Wholeness

The correlation between salvation and healing

Salvation:

1. Why does Mankind need salvation?

- 1.1 *The Consequences of the Fall of Man*
- 1.2 *Original Sin*
- 1.3 *Estrangement from God*

2. What agents are effective in salvation?

- 2.1 *The Work of the Cross*
- 2.2 *The power of the Gospel*
- 2.3 *The work of the Holy Spirit*

3. How is a person saved?

- 3.1 *Calling and election*
- 3.2 *Repentance and faith*
- 3.3 *Conversion and the new nature*

INTRODUCTION

Healing and Wholeness

In the Bible, salvation and healing are cleared linked with each. There is a definite correlation between the two.

In the Great Commission that Jesus gave to the Church, it is clear that healing the sick was to accompany the preaching of the Gospel.

Mark 16:15.....

Signs and wonders would accompany those who believe the Gospel message.

When Jesus taught about the coming of the Kingdom of God, his preaching and teaching was accompanied by healing and deliverance

Matthew 4:23.....

Matthew 9:35.....

So it is clear that His Message was accompanied by Miracles.

The truth of SOZO:

There is a common Greek word in the New Testament which is translated into different English words which reveal the connection between salvation and healing- most often translated “whole” in the KJV but variously in the NIV.

1. Here are some examples when describing a healing by Jesus

*Mark 5:34 (woman with Crohn’s disease).....
KJV = ‘whole’- NIV ‘healed’*

*Luke 17:19 (healing of the 10 lepers).....
KJV = ‘whole’ – ‘made you well’ NIV
Only the one that returned received something more from Jesus.....*

*Mark 10:52 (Blind Bartimaeus).....
KJV ‘whole’ – ‘healed you’ NIV*

But SOZO is also used when describing SALVATION

*Luke 7:50 (sinful woman forgiven).....
KJV = “saved you” – NIV ‘saved you’*

*Luke 18:42 (blind beggar receives sight).....
KJV = ‘saved you’ – NIV ‘healed you’*

Note the clear correlation that the use of the word SOZO makes between salvation and healing.

2. Continued by the 12 Disciples

Luke 9:1.....

And later the 70 disciples:-

Luke 10:1.....

3. Continued by the Early Church

(Peter & John) Acts 3:1ff.....

Acts 5:12.....

After Jesus death (Luke 23:26-49), resurrection (24:1-12), and ascension (24:50-53; Acts 1:6-11), God sends the Holy Spirit down upon the apostles (2:1-4). Peter then preaches his first sermon at Pentecost, resulting in three thousand people being baptized (2:14-41). Now, Luke presents the reader with a physical healing performed by Peter and John in the name of Jesus upon a crippled man outside of the temple in Jerusalem. Peter gives a speech to the people in the temple and later to the leaders who arrest him, explaining that it is by Jesus and faith in his name that the man was saved. Luke uses this man's faith as an example of the faith required, in conjunction with repentance and calling upon the name of the Lord, to be saved.

Physical healings are integral to the Gospel of Jesus' ministry. They portray the breaking of the kingdom of God into the world through Jesus, show God's inclusion of those excluded by society, and allude to the salvation in forgiveness of sins and membership in God's people received through Jesus by repentance and faith after his resurrection.

Luke uses the healing of the leper (Luke 5:12-16), the healing and forgiveness of sins of the paralyzed man (5:17-26), Jesus's statement about his mission (5:29-32), and the healing of the centurion's servant (7:1-10) to show that physical healings allude to forgiveness of sins and that the faith exhibited by those healed physically foreshadows the faith required of members in God's people.

The Gospels then use variations of the phrase, "Your faith has saved" and specifically, the word save [SOZO], in the healing of Jairus's daughter and the woman with the flow of blood (8:40-56), the healing of the leper who then returns (17:11-19), the healing of the blind man (18:35-43), and the healing of the crippled man in Lystra (Acts 14:8-18) to allude to salvation from sin and membership in God's Church.

Finally, Luke in writing the Acts pulls many of these themes together in the healing of the crippled man at the temple and Peter's subsequent preaching (Acts 3:1-4:12), in which faith in Jesus is shown both to heal the crippled man physically and, along with repentance, to save sinners by bringing them into the membership of God's people and thus keeping them from being destroyed "from the people" (3:23). All of these accounts, taken as a whole, show that Luke uses physical healings within his narrative in order to allude to the salvation in forgiveness of sins and membership in God's Church received through Jesus by repentance and faith after his resurrection.

Salvation:

At the very heart of the Christian faith is the doctrine of Salvation, also known as The Atonement. The whole teaching of the Bible throughout history points in the direction of man being saved, rescued, delivered and redeemed.

1 Timothy 1:15

The word 'atonement' means "at-one-ment"- it means "to be at one" or cause to be at one. More particularly, atonement relates to overcoming a serious breach between two estranged parties by taking some action which will bring the two estranged parties back together again in harmony and oneness.

Atonement also means "reconciliation". For to reconcile is to restore harmony. To bring together as one, those who used to be separated and apart from each other.

2 Corinthians 5:19.....

Romans 5:10.....

1. Why does Mankind need Salvation?

1.1 The Fall of Adam

When God created Adam, he gave him freewill, that is He gave Adam "moral choice"- the ability to choose between right and wrong. Adam was not pre-programmed like a robot. God created in him freedom to choose.

Genesis 2:16.....

The "tree of life" represented man's "positive freedom". The ability for Adam to have fellowship and relationship with God.- to enjoy the good things that God had provided for him...God said: "You may freely eat...." V16.

Fellowship and relationship with God is ultimately the most precious of all freedoms. In the beginning, nothing stood in the way of that wonderful fellowship; no evil; no sin; no estrangement; no embarrassment- the beginning was as the ultimate end will one day be:-

Revelation 21:3.....

But Adam fell when he disobeyed God:

Genesis 3:1-19.....

Consider:

- Sin did not start with man v1 (Rev. 12:9, 10)
- Adam was not the first to be cursed v14
- All sin has its beginnings in deceit v1 KJV "Subtle"; NIV "Crafty" (Heb. "arum"= 'clever')

Where did sin come from? How did it enter the universe? God did not sin. It was Satan and many angels who first sinned, and then sin entered the human race when Adam & Eve sinned.

Sin was present in the angelic world with the fall of Satan and his demons.

2 Peter 2:4.....

1.2 Original Sin (Inherited sinful nature)

How does the sin of Adam affect us? Scripture teaches us that we have inherited a sinful nature from Adam, in two principal ways:-

i) We have a sinful nature because of Adam's sin

Romans 5:12.....

This inherited sinful nature is called "original sin" as we have an inherited disposition to sin

Ephesians 2:3.....

We are sinful in two aspects:-

- **Our inherited sinful nature**

Psalms 51:5.....

- **The fact that all have sinned**

Romans 3:23.....

Any of us who have had children know this to be true! You don't have to teach them to do wrong- they have an inbred tendency towards it !

ii) We are sinners because we have committed sinful acts- to say otherwise is to deceive ourselves and make God a liar

1 John 1:8-10.....

iii) The effects of sin

- **Guilt/Shame**

Compare Genesis 2:25b.....with Genesis 3:8.....

Paul explains the effects of Adam's sin in Romans 5:12-21.....

Note the context shows that Paul is not dealing with actual sins that people commit every day, for the entire paragraph is taken up with the comparison between Adam and Christ.

When Paul says "So (Gk 'houtos' = thus, in this way)- that is through Adam's sin "death spread to all men..."

- **Transference of guilt to all men**

This is indicated by the next two verses:-

Romans 5:13 & 14.....

Paul points out that from the time of Adam to the time of the giving of the Law under Moses, people did not have God's written laws, and therefore their sins were not charged against their account because there was no law (v13)

Roman 7:7.....

1 John 3:4.....

But although their sins were not charged against them because the Law had not yet been given, they still died. The fact that they died is proof that God counted people guilty on the basis of Adam's sin.

The fact that God counted people guilty because of Adam's sin is further confirmed in:-

Romans 5:18-19.....

NOTE: the juxtaposition between the first and last Adam. Just as we acquired the effects of Adam's disobedience, so by faith in Christ we can acquire the new nature and obtain righteousness in Him- v19 "by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous."

1.3 Estrangement from God

Another effect of sin in this section is estrangement or separation from God

- **This was immediate upon Adam's failure**

Genesis 3:8.....

They were afraid and hid themselves from the presence of God v10

It is a significant fact that mankind still tends to remove himself from God's presence when all the time God is seeking him to have fellowship and relationship with him.

- **Sin separates**

Isaiah 59:2.....

Ephesians 2:12.....

2 Thessalonians 1:9.....

- **Death**

1 Corinthians 15:22.....

Romans 6:23.....

God said to Adam that if he disobeyed, he would surely die (Genesis 2:17)

Whilst Adam's death was not immediate, his spiritual death was. He became estranged from God.

Ephesians 2:1

Colossians 2:13.....

2. What agents are effective in Salvation?

2.1 The Power of the Cross

Why is it that the Bible teaches that the Cross is the only ground on which God forgives our sin and that it is by Christ's death on the Cross, that we are saved?

Why should our forgiveness depend on Christ's death? Why doesn't God simply forgive us?

- **Smashing Satan.** The notion that it was the devil who made the cross necessary was widespread in the Early Church. Jesus and His apostles frequently spoke of the Cross as the means of the Devil's overthrow. The Cross deprived Satan of his power!

Hebrews 2:14.....

John 12:30, 31.....

- **Satisfying the law.** Christ's death on the Cross fully satisfied the requirements of the Law.

Hebrews 9:22.....

Romans 8:3.....

Psalm 85:10.....

- **Satisfying God's honour & justice (Propitiation)**

3 verses in Scripture mention this word:-

Romans 3:24,25.....

1 John 2:1-2.....

1 John 4:10.....

To “propitiate” someone means to appease or pacify someone’s anger.

In each of the three verses above, the word (Gk= Hilasterion or hilasmos) is rendered “mercy seat” (KJV or atonement cover (NIV). The solid gold lid of the Ark of the Covenant where the High Priest sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice (Leviticus 16)

The power of the Cross then is the shedding of Christ’s blood on it

That’s why Paul said he would “glory in the Cross” (Galatians 6:14)

John Stott once said, “What dominated Christ’s mind was not the living of His life, but the GIVING of His life.” This is one truth that the modern evangelical church needs to learn. What makes the Gospel so unique is not that Jesus was a great teacher or moral example, but that He was the sacrificial lamb that made atonement for sin.”

2.2 The Preaching of the Gospel

It is through the preaching of the Gospel that the power of God in salvation is made known.

Romans 1:16.....

1 Corinthians 1:17.....

1 Corinthians 1:18.....

Mark 16:20.....

Points to remember:

- Gospel preaching is proclaiming the Cross (**Galatians 3:1-3**)
- Gospel preaching is proclaiming the Cross visually (portrayed v1)
- Gospel preaching is proclaiming the Cross as a present reality (**Galatians 2:20**)

2.3 The Work of the Holy Spirit

- There is a Divine interaction between the Word and the Spirit

Genesis 1:2.....

Acts:10:44.....

- **To reveal Jesus**

John 16:14.....

1 Corinthians 2:10.....

- **To convict of sin**

John 16:8.....

- **To remind us of the Jesus' words**

John 14:26.....

3. How is a person saved?

3.1 Calling and election

Romans 8:30.....

Notice in this verse the recurring word "He". In each case...He called... He justified....He glorified...

*So salvation is a work of God.
Is this call restricted to only some people?*

Acts 17:30.....

1 Peter 2:9.....

1 Corinthians 1:9 (+ Acts 2:39)

- **This is a powerful act of God which assures eternal life**

1 Timothy 6:12

This powerful act of God is referred to as "Effective Calling" – although it is not irresistible, we still have a choice to make, we still have to make that decision.

- **But the initiative begins with God**

John 6:44.....

An example of the Gospel call working effectively is seen in Paul's first visit to Phillippi

Acts 16:14

“The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul” ESV

- **Elements of the Gospel Call:**

Explanation- people have to understand the message

Invitation- the invitation must be given

Response- a response must be made (no response is a negative response)

3.2 Repentance and faith

We may define repentance as follows: Repentance is the heartfelt sorrow for sin, a renouncing of it, and a sincere commitment to forsake it and to walk in obedience.

Gk= “Metanoia” = to change one’s mind or direction.

But faith must accompany repentance. Faith is more than just repenting.

(QUESTION: Did Judas Iscariot get saved?” – he repented & threw the money back Matt.27:5)

Repentance and faith must accompany each other. Mere sorrow/remorse is not enough unless it is accompanied by a turning to God in faith.

Acts 20:21

Compare this with 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

Scripture puts repentance and faith together as different aspects of the one act of coming to Christ for salvation.

These are not two separate or different acts- they are part of the same act- repentance and faith are two-sides of the same coin.

3.3 Conversion and the new nature (Regeneration)

What is Regeneration? It is an act of God whereby He imparts new spiritual life to us.

It is also known as being “born again”

John 3:1-8

Titus 3:3-8

“rebirth” here in v5 is “regeneration” in KJV. Gk = “palingenesias”. Only used one other time in the NT in Matt. 19:28 “Truly I say to you in the NEW WORLD.....(palingenesia)

So conversion and regeneration is a NEW CREATION

2 Corinthians 5:17.....