Salvation
Lesson #8

In the Steps of Christ
Primary Christian Doctrine
For **by grace** you have been **saved** through faith ...

Ephesians 2:8-9
Definition of Salvation

- “a process begun by justification, advanced by sanctification, and climaxed in glorification”
  
  David K. Lowery

- Salvation is the process by which God delivers (i.e. saves) sinners from:
  - The penalty of their sins (Justification)
  - The power of their sins (Sanctification)
  - The presence of their sins (Glorification)
Lesson #8: Salvation

Justification
- Atonement (Redemption, Propitiation, Forgiveness, Substitution, Reconciliation)
- Regeneration
- Adoption
- Eternal Life

Sanctification

Perfection

Glorification

Depravity

Picture of Salvation
Lesson Outline

1. Justification
   - Deliverance from the penalty of sin

2. Sanctification
   - Deliverance from the power of sin

3. Glorification
   - Deliverance from the presence of sin

4. The Evidence of Salvation
Lesson Outline

1. Justification
   - Deliverance from the penalty of sin
2. Sanctification
   - Deliverance from the power of sin
3. Glorification
   - Deliverance from the presence of sin
4. The Evidence of Salvation
Justification

Definition and characteristics:

- God’s instantaneous act of declaring a sinner “not guilty” of sin and therefore righteous in His sight.
- A one-time, immediate judicial act performed completely by God and wholly by grace the moment a person possesses saving faith.
- At justification, several instantaneous transactions occur...
Justification

1. **Atonement** - Reparation of the sinner’s relationship with God
   - **Redemption** – Complete payment sin debt (1 Peter 1:19)
   - **Propitiation** – Satisfaction of justice and removal of wrath (John 3:36; Romans 5:9)
   - **Forgiveness** – Pardoning of sins (Psalm 103:12)
   - **Substitution** – Imputation of sins to Christ and righteousness to believers (1 Peter 3:18; 2 Cor. 5:21)
   - **Reconciliation** – Transformation of a relationship of hostility into one of peace (Colossians 1:21)
2. **Regeneration / New Birth** - The reception of a new nature and the indwelling and sealing of the Holy Spirit

- **John 3:3** *Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

- As a result of regeneration, the believer will desire holiness and begin to live for Christ *(Romans 6:17-18; Galatians 2:20)*
3. **Adoption** - Entrance as a son into the family of God (John 1:12-13)

4. **Eternal Life** - God’s promise of an eternal, abiding relationship with Him, on earth and in heaven

   - **John 17:3** *This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*

   - Jesus is the Eternal Life *(1 John 1:2, 5:20).*
Justification

If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you ever had on earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, if Christ was not there?

John Piper
Lesson Outline

1. Justification
   - Deliverance from the penalty of sin

2. Sanctification
   - Deliverance from the power of sin

3. Glorification
   - Deliverance from the presence of sin

4. The Evidence of Salvation
Sanctification

Definition and characteristics:

- The process of continually becoming more like Christ
- Becoming increasingly set apart from sin and dedicated to a life of holiness
- The gracious work of God
- The believer also has a responsibility to work toward sanctification
Views of Sanctification

Reformed Perspective
John Murray, John Owen,
J. I. Packer, Anthony Hoekema

Chaferian Perspective
Lewis Sperry Chafer, Charles Ryrie,
John Walvoord

Regeneration
Growth in Holiness through Spiritual Disciplines

Accept Christ as Savior
Natural Man
Carnal Man
Spiritual Man
1. **Sanctification is the work of God**
   - It is accomplished by all three members of the Trinity (Jude 1; Hebrews 10:10; 2 Thes. 2:13)
   - It comes through God’s Word (John 17:17)
   - It is transformational (2 Corinthians 3:18)

2. **Sanctification is the work of the believer**
   - 2 Corinthians 7:1 ...let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
3. Sanctification results in spiritual growth in the life of the believer

- **Galatians 5:22-24**  
  But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness**, self-control; against such things there is no law. **Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**
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Glorification

Glorification is the instantaneous completion of salvation whereby God finishes the work of sanctification by perfecting the believer in holiness and ushering him into perfect glory.

– 1 John 3:2  Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.
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Evidence of Salvation

- God makes it abundantly evident when He does a saving work in a person’s life.

- The Bible tells us to “Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!” (2 Corinthians 13:5).

- How can we know if we are genuinely saved?
Potential Indicators of Conversion

1. Devotion to the hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2)
2. Loves Christ (John 8:42) and desires righteousness (Matthew 5:6)
3. Experiences a decreasing pattern of sin (1 John 3:4-10)
4. Selflessly loves others (1 John 2:9-11)
Potential Indicators of Conversion

5. Separates himself from the world (1 John 2:15-17)

6. Grows spiritually and bears fruit (Matthew 7:17-18)

7. Lives a life characterized by obedience (John 14:15)

8. Believes the truth about God (3 John 3-4)
Evidence of Salvation

If there is not, then, at least a yearning in our hearts to live a holy life pleasing to God, we need to seriously question whether our faith in Christ is genuine... True salvation brings with it a desire to be made holy.

Jerry Bridges
Potential Indicators of Hypocrisy

1. More concerned with external religion than the condition of the heart (Mark 7:6-9)
2. Pursues salvation on the basis of good works (Romans 9:31-32)
3. Has never experienced a change in lifestyle as a result of being born again as a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
4. Has more concern for the world than for Christ (James 4:4)
Potential Indicators of Hypocrisy

5. Places children, spouse, etc. above Christ (Matthew 10:37-38)
6. Has no desire to read, meditate on, and apply the Bible (1 Peter 2:2)
7. Is ashamed to share his faith with the lost (Luke 9:26)
8. Never talks about Christ and what He has done in his life (Luke 6:45)
Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1
Group Discussion

1. Have you been justified by God’s grace through faith in Christ?
2. How have you exerted effort in the sanctification process? How have you grown spiritually as a result?
3. What evidences of genuine salvation do you see in your life?
Limited Atonement

Limited Atonement - Christ’s death was sufficient for everyone but only efficient for the elect

- Christ died for “many” (Isaiah 53:11; Mark 10:45)
- Christ died for His people (Matthew 1:21; John 10:14-16, 26-29, 17:9; Ephesians 5:25)
- He purchased the elect with His blood (Revelation 5:9-10; Titus 2:14; Romans 5:8-10)
What about 1 John 2:2?

- **1 John 2:2** and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

  - **1 John 5:19** We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

  - The definition of propitiation is “satisfaction of justice and removal of wrath.” Has God removed His wrath from unbelievers?
Limited Atonement

Atonement - Reparation of the sinner’s relationship with God – Does this apply to unbelievers?

- **Redemption** – Complete payment sin debt – Does this apply to unbelievers?
- **Propitiation** – Satisfaction of justice and removal of wrath – Does this apply to unbelievers?
- **Forgiveness** – Pardoning of sins – Does this apply to unbelievers?
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