

10/28/2023

## **FALSEHOOD OF ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED**

### INTRO

I'M SURE MANY OF YOU HAVE NOTICED THAT THERE IS A LOT OF CONVERSATION AND COMMENTARY THESE DAYS, OF THE DIRE DIRECTION THIS COUNTRY, AND THE WORLD AT LARGE, IS HEADED. IT'S BECOMING VERY EVIDENT TO ANYONE EVEN SLIGHTLY AWAKE, THAT EVIL HAS ALMOST OVERTAKEN OUR SOCIETY AND CULTURE.

AND QUITE FRANKLY, THESE EVIL & IMMORTAL CONDITIONS ARE "RINGING THE BELL" IN THE MINDS OF MANY THAT WE AS A SO-CALLED CHRISTIAN NATION HAVE STRAYED WAY TOO FAR FROM GOD. SO, INCREASING WE ARE BEGINNING TO HEAR CALLS FROM RELIGIOUS LEADERS, AND LAY-PEOPLE, THAT WE MUST GET PEOPLE TO RETURN TO GOD, AND GET THEM SAVED BEFORE THE TRIBULATION...AND RAPTURE IS UPON US.

THEIR SIMPLE, STRAIGHT FORWARD MESSAGE WE HEAR PROMOTED ON TV AND IN ALL FORMS OF MEDIA IS "DECLARE YOUR CONDITION AS A SINNER, AND CALL ON THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED" ...MEANING YOUR PLACE IN HEAVEN WILL BE RESERVED.

UNFORTUNATELY IN THE MINDS OF MANY, THE MESSAGE THAT SALVATION, AS A ONE-TIME EVENT, OR "ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED", AS A GIFT OF GOD BY CHRIST'S SACRIFICE.. IS ACTUALLY NOT ENOUGH TO OBTAIN ETERNAL LIFE.

SHOCKING ADMISSION YOU SAY? – AGREED. UNTRUE STATEMENT? – NO.

WHY? – BECAUSE MAINSTREAM RELIGION HAS NOT TAUGHT, NOR UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE'S A VERY IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SALVATION & ETERNAL LIFE. **WHICH MAKES THE DOCTRINE OF "ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED" FALSE, AND WHAT WE WILL COVER TODAY.**

### **TURN TO: LUKE 13:20 – 28**

- This passage gives Christ's answer to question = "why so few?" are being saved. Christ says he "did NOT KNOW them" (not that He never knew them), but he once did, however now he doesn't know them anymore BECAUSE they NEVER choose to build a relationship with Him. They choose NOT to practice righteousness.

### WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF SALVATION? – **MATT 1:20-21** (last part)

- We know it's being saved from the penalty of sin (Rom 6:23).
- It is a "one-time" event (**Acts 2:38**)...so in this case, "one & done".
- We can't earn it, it's a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8-9 / Titus 3:5).
- All made possible by Jesus Christ personal sacrifice on the cross (**1 Cor 15:3-4, Rom 3:23-25**)
- Nothing was required of us, except belief & acceptance of His sacrifice to pay for our sins.

SO IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND WHY MAINSTREAM CHRISTIANITY APPROACHES SALVATION THIS WAY...NO WORKS, NO LAW KEEPING, CAN QUALIFY TO "SAVE US" FROM OUR SINS. IT'S TRULY A ONE-TIME EVENT.

SO WHY DO WE IN THE CHURCHES OF GOD TEACH YOU CAN LOSE SALVATION, SINCE IT WAS NEVER DEPENDED ON US ANYWAY? WASN'T THE BLOOD OF CHRIST SUFFICIENT TO KEEP US SAVED FROM OUR SINS?

BECAUSE UNLIKE MAINSTREAM CHRISTIANITY, WE UNDERSTAND THAT REAL SALVATION IS ACTUALLY A "PROCESS" ... IT HAS A BEGINNING AND ENDING... AND "PHASE TWO" OF THIS PROCESS...IS CALLED "ETERNAL LIFE".

### WHAT IS ETERNAL LIFE? – **JOHN 17:1-3 / 1 JOHN 5:11-13**

- Establish personal relationship with God the Father & Jesus Christ
- Yet it involves "endurance" (Matt 10:22)
- And it involves "commandment keeping" (Matt 19:17)

HOWEVER, FOLKS THAT BELIEVE ETERNAL LIFE HAS ALREADY BEEN SECURED “NOW”, BASED ON ACCEPTANCE OF CHRIST CAN POINT TO THESE SCRIPTURES:

- **John 5:24, 6:47 / 1 John 5:13**

YET THE BIBLE ALSO SAYS THAT “ETERNAL LIFE” IS AN “FUTURE EVENT” ... ONE THAT’S COMING:

- **John 5:28-29 / Rom 2:6-7 / Hebrews 5:9**

SO AS WE’VE READ SO FAR, YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE THAT NO MATTER WHERE YOU STAND ON ISSUE OF SALVATION BEING A “PROCESS” ... OR “ONE & DONE” SINGLE EVENT... THERE ARE SCRIPTURES TO BACK YOU UP.

BUT WHAT’S THE TRUE OF THE MATTER? AND HOW DO WE RECONCILE THESE SOMETIME CONFLICTING CONCEPTS? THIS IS WHERE IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO “HARMONIZE” SCRIPTURES (BIBLE STUDY RULE #3, John 10:35)...SINCE GOD IS “NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION” (1 COR 14:33)

A GOOD WAY TO CONCEPTUALIZE THE SALVATION/ETERNAL LIFE PROCESS IS TO CONSIDER HOW WE AS AN ADULT HUMAN BEING CAME TO BE:

- First, we had to be conceived between our father & mother
- Then, we grew within our mother for approx. 9 months.
- Then, we were born a baby...and nourished on milk
- And then we continued our growth thru childhood, teenage, and into adulthood...making us “complete” functioning human beings.

SPIRITUALLY – WE WENT THRU THE SAME PROCESS:

- First, we repented of our sins, accepted Christ, baptized & HS (conception)
- Then, we began our growth process in our mother (church)...we nourished ourselves on milk..
- Then we continue our growth from childhood, to teenage years (where we move to “solid food”), and into adulthood (becoming more perfect, mature like God & Christ – Matt 5:48)

NOW WE ALL KNOW, THAT NOT ALL BABIES (CONCEIVED) ARE BORN...AND WE KNOW THAT ALL BABIES BORN, MAKE IT THRU CHILDHOOD, AND NOT ALL WHO GO THRU CHILDHOOD, MAKE IT TO OLD AGE AS ADULTS. THIS JOURNEY THRU PHYSICAL LIFE CAN BE ABORTED, INTERRUPTED, OR CUT-SHORT AT ANYTIME IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL.

SAME WITH SALVATION & ETERNAL LIFE. WHEN VIEW THRU THIS "LENSE" THE FALSEHOOD OF ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED...BECOMES OBVIOUS.

AND CERTAIN SCRIPTURES THAT SEEM TO CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER ON THE SURFACE, NOW CAN BE RECONCILED...LET'S LOOK AT A FEW, SOME AGAIN: SALVATION IS A GIFT (**EPH 2:8**)...BUT THEN WE HAVE TO WORK AT IT? (**PHIL 2:12**)

IN EPHESIANS 2:8, SALVATION AS A GIFT WAS PROVIDED WHEN CHRIST DIED AS OUR "PASSEVER" (1 COR 5:7) TO REMOVE PENALTY OF OUR SINS ...A ONE-TIME EVENT, WHICH WE COULD NOT WORK FOR OR PROVIDE FOR OURSELVES.

HIS DEATH, REMOVED THE ENMITY...AND PERMITTED ACCESS TO GOD THE FATHER, THRU THE HOLY SPIRIT...SO WE COULD GET TO KNOW HIM PERSONALLY. (**Romans 5:11** / 2 Cor 5:19)

**THIS IS PART ONE OF THE SALVATION PROCESS!**

IN PHIL 2:12-13, THE SALVATION WE ARE "WORKING OUT"... IS NOT THAT WHICH, PROVIDED ACCESS TO GOD, BUT ACTUALLY "SANCTIFICATION" WHICH IS THE "GROWTH PROCESS" WE ENGAGE IN...USING THE HOLY SPIRIT, GOD THE FATHER HAS PROVIDED SO WE CAN BECOME "LIKE HIM" AND ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD AT FIRST RESURRECTION... IT'S A PERFECTION PROCESS THAT WE AS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST MUST GO THRU IN THIS LIFE...(**REV 19:7-8**)

**THIS IS PART TWO OF THE SALVATION PROCESS!!**

THE REASON MAINSTREAM CHRISTIANITY CAN ONLY SEE “PART ONE” OF THIS PROCESS, IS THAT DON’T UNDERSTAND “COVENANTS” NOR “GOD’S HOLY DAYS”.

THOSE OF US WHO ACCEPT CHRIST’S SACRIFICE NOW (PASSOVER), MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO ACTUALLY ENTERED IN A “MARRIAGE COVENANT” WHICH LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE AT FIRST RESURRECTION... SO AS IN ANY COVENANT THERE LAWS, RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DUTIES...THIS IS OUR PART OF THE COVENANT....AND ETERNAL LIFE IS A “RIGHT” OF THIS NEW TESTAMENT (NT) COVENANT, BECOMING BRIDE OF CHRIST IS A “RIGHT” OF THIS NT COVENANT ...NONE OF THIS WAS PROVIDED FOR IN OLD TESTAMENT (OT) COVENANT.

THOSE THAT VIOLATE THE TERMS OF THIS NT COVENANT... WILL END UP BEING “CAST OUT” OF KINGDOM OF GOD (**HEBREW 10:26-29 / 2 PET 2:20-21**) FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD, THERE REMAINS HOPE OF “ATONEMENT”...WHERE AT THAT TIME THERE SIN WILL BE COVERED, SATAN WILL BE REMOVED, AND THEY AT THAT TIME WILL BE IN POSITION TO BEGIN DEVELOPING THEIR PERSONALLY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THE FATHER, JESUS CHRIST, AND HIS BRIDE.

BUT FOR NOW, MANY WHO ARE LOOKING TO “ESCAPE” THE TROUBLE AHEAD BY JUST “ACCEPTING & BELIEVING IN CHRIST” SO THEY CAN BE RAPTURED AWAY OR SECURE THEIR PLACE IN HEAVEN...WILL MISS OUT, BECAUSE THEY DESIRE TO “ESCAPE” VERSUS “BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP” WITH GOD THRU LOVE & OBEDIENCE.

THIS IS WHY FEW WILL BE SAVED! -- LUKE 13:23-27.

SO WHAT’S THE PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF SALVATION? – IT’S CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING VERSE (which CONNECTS “Part One” & “Part Two” of the Salvation Process):

**John 3:36 (obedience to Christ) / REV. 17:14 (remaining faithful)**

