

Proverbs 19:2, Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth.

Hosea 4:6, My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Assumptions: Starting points of faith.

1. God
2. God gave His word
3. God preserved His word to man
4. The King James Bible is the preserved word of God
5. God created man
6. Man through free will fell into sin
7. Man needs to be saved

SALVATION in its biblical context practically means deliverance from something or someone harmful and restoration to a position of safety and security.

1. Exodus Israel from Pharaoh and Egypt. (Exodus 14:13, 30)

Romans 8:30, Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

1 Thessalonians 5:23, And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SALVATION in the New Testament context describes all that God does for the gospel believer, it includes the complete works of ¹Justification, ²Sanctification, and ³Glorification.

SALVATION involves the whole person; ¹spirit, ²soul, and ³body.
SALVATION also involves past, present and future time.

- A. **Past** (I Thessalonians 1:10; II Timothy 1:9). He saved us from sins penalty.
- B. **Present** (Romans 6:1, 12, 13; Ephesians 2:5, 8) He is saving us from our sins moment by moment.
- C. **Future** (I Thessalonians 5:9; Romans 13:11)

Because of the above, salvation focuses around three other doctrines:

JUSTIFICATION is the legal act of God whereby He declares the believer just or righteous. (Romans 5:1)

The Believer's legal standing before God has changed. We had broken the law of God and had a penalty to pay. That penalty was paid on our behalf by Jesus Christ. Therefore, the law of God was fulfilled, the justice of God was satisfied, and we were declared "just" or "righteous" before the law of God

SANCTIFICATION is the setting apart and preservation of our spirit, soul, and body in Christ Jesus and the subsequent influence of God in our life working to set us apart from sin and unto His glory (I Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 8:8).

GLORIFICATION is the final and eternal condition of our body, soul, and spirit safely fashioned after Christ's glorious body and eternally united to God through the Spirit (Philippians 3:21; Ephesians 2:7).

I. DEFINITION:

■ **SALVATION MEANS DIFFERENT THINGS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE.** Even within professing Christian groups words like “saved,” “salvation,” “gospel,” “Christian,” or “believer” have very different meanings.

■ **SO HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO LEARN AND KNOW WHAT “SALVATION” MEANS?**

There are at least 4 different ways that professing Christians learn.

1. **Some trust and follow scholarship.** Some people think there are educated experts in linguistics and theology and they follow their ideas and accept their opinions as the guide and standard of learning and truth. **This is not reliable.**

2. **Other professing Christians trust to or follow a priesthood** who they believe has the divine ability to teach infallibly. They accept what the priests teach. Period. **This is not reliable.**

Jeremiah 17:5, Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.

Psalms 118:8, It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

Matthew 27:1, When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death:

3. **Still others trust in their own opinion,** judgment, rationality or feelings alone as a guide to knowledge. **This is not reliable.**

Proverbs 28:26, He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Proverbs 26:16, The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

4. **A Christian should base his opinions, ideas, beliefs, convictions, etc. on Scripture** to the best of his or her ability.

1 John 5:13, These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

■ **HOW DO WE DO THIS? HOW CAN WE LEARN FROM THE BIBLE AND BASE OUR OPINIONS UPON IT?**

There are at least two conflicting ideas regarding how Christian's are supposed to study and learn the Bible.

1. **The first is to utilize Bible dictionaries, encyclopedias, commentaries, written treatises, and Greek and Hebrew language aids.** (These sources are all mainly critical of the King James Bible and their ideas and teachings largely result from and depend on changing the actual words of the Bible.) These changes occur with the most critical and vital doctrines of Salvation (Atonement, Propitiation, and Reconciliation).
2. **The second is to utilize the King James Bible, an English Dictionary, and a Bible Concordance.** These tools are accessible or affordable to most everyone and coupled with faith, humility, prayer, trust in the Holy Ghost, diligence, and obedience will yield the truth.

Luke 24:25, Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

Luke 24:45, Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

John 16:13, Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 7:17, If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Suggested study method.

1. Locate the general or most basic and broad definition of the term.

Salvation (save) – The general definition is deliverance from or preservation from danger, difficulty, or loss.

2. Observe its usage in the Bible.

1. Genesis 49:18 – Really can't tell from context to what it is referring.
2. Exodus 14:13, 30 – This is Israel being saved from the Egyptian Army and Pharaoh.
3. I Samuel 11:3, 13 – The Men of Jabeshgilead being saved from Nahash and the Ammonites.
4. I Samuel 14:45 – Israel being saved from the Philistines.
5. Nehemiah 9:27 – Judges saving Israel
6. Luke 1:69-71, 74 – Israel being saved from enemies.

From these verses, what does salvation mean and what does it refer to?

1. It is primarily a work of God.
2. Generally, always means deliverance from something, but it is not always a reference of being saved from hell.
3. Sometimes a reference to a human work. (Nehemiah 9:27; Acts 27:20, 31; Acts 2:40; II Kings 6:10; I Timothy 2:15)
4. Primarily involves Israel.

New Testament Salvation is a reference