BIBLE STUDY
LESSON 16: SALVATION

I. INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered why so many people are faithful to the work of the Lord week after week and even year after year? Most of the dear people who are faithful do so because they have been saved, and they want others to be won to Christ. Granted, a lot of "religious activity" has nothing to do with reaching people. In so many instances the group or person interested in winning someone to Christ is never known. That is the way most "soul winners" would prefer it to be in the first place. Salvation of lost souls is the reason Jesus died, the reason He established the church, the reason He gave to the church His gifts of "*apostles…prophets evangelists…pastors and teachers*" (Ephesians 4:11). These gifts were given to the church for the winning of the lost, then for growth of the new person in Christ and "*for the perfecting of the saints* [saved ones], *for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*"(verse 12).

Salvation may be gained by one way, and one way only. The way is God's way and is the subject of this study.

II.THE NUCLEUS OF THIS TRUTH

Salvation is the work of God by which He saves man from the eternal doom of sin. In salvation He gives to man the riches of His grace which means eternal life now and forever. Salvation is the work of God and not a work of man for God.

Salvation is the "new birth." Jesus said to Nicodemus, *"Ye must be born again"* (John 3:7). The new birth is a spiritual birth and is as much a birth as the natural birth. The only way to become a Christian is to be "born again."

The meaning of *salvation* in the Hebrew and Greek implies the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness. Until a person receives Christ as Savior, that person is lost and has no assurance of deliverance, safety, etc. Good works will never bring salvation to a soul. Being a good person is not salvation. The Bible declares that we are not saved by works. First is salvation—followed by works (Ephesians 2:10).

III. THE GREAT TRUTH - SALVATION

A. SALVATION: THE EXTERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD

1. Salvation was conceived in the mind of God.

a. The plan of salvation was in the mind of God before the foundation of the world.

Write out Ephesians 1:4_____

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b. Salvation was a result of God's foreknowledge. The plan of salvation was not an afterthought of God. He foreknew (being omniscient) the need for a plan of redemption.

Write out 1Peter 1:20 _____

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Write out Titus 1:2 _____

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2. Salvation — the grace of God

a. Salvation is not a result of anything we might do, but a result of God's grace. The word "*grace*" means: God's Riches At Christ's Expense.

Write out 2 Timothy 1:9_____

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Write out Titus 2:11 _____

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b. Salvation is offered because of God's love toward us.

Write out Romans 5:8_____

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B. SALVATION BEFORE AND AFTER THE CROSS

1. Salvation before the cross

a. God dealt with sin before the cross by atonement. *Atonement* means "to cover" (Leviticus 16).

b. The Levitical offerings "covered" the sins until, and in anticipation of the cross, but did not "take away" those sins (Hebrews 9:15).

Write out Romans 3:25 _____

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Note the words "*the remission of sins that are past*." The word "*remission*" means "to pass over."

c. The Levitical offering of sacrifice was offered in anticipation of the supreme Sacrifice, Jesus Christ. God had promised a Lamb (Genesis 3:15; 22:8) and had forgiven sin on the basis of His promise.

d. Paul, in his address to the men of Athens on Mars Hill, said, "*And the times of this ignorance God* ***winked at***" (Acts 17:30). The word should be "overlooked."

2. Salvation after the cross.

a. The divine method of dealing with sin since Christ died is based upon ONE OFFERING— the offering of Christ upon the cross (Hebrews 10:12, 14).

b. In His death, Christ did not "cover" sin, but took away (washed clean) the sin. "*Behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*" (John 1:29).

Write out Colossians 2:14_____

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C. THE PRICE PAID FOR SALVATION

1. God's Son, Jesus Christ, had to die to provide salvation.

a. By the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, He provided a way of salvation for humanity.

Write out Romans 8:11_____

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b. "*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*" (John 3:16)

God gave—Christ died—His blood shed—the price of salvation proves God's love for us.

2. Jesus suffered for the sins of the world.

a. He suffered "*that he might bring us to God*."

Write out 1 Peter 3:18_____

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b. His blood was shed "*for the remission of sin*." The word "*remission*" means "forgiveness." Jesus spoke of this when he instituted the Lord's Supper.

Write out Matthew 26:28_____

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D. SALVATION FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN

1. Christ saves from the guilt and penalty of sin.

Write out 2 Corinthians 5:21:_____

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2. Christ will save all who will come to Him.

a. He always keeps his promises. He is not willing that any should perish.

Write out 2 Peter 3:9_____

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b. Notice in 2 Peter 3:9 that the final decision is left to the individual. God never forces, even though it is His will that none should perish.

E. SALVATION FROM THE POWER OF SIN

1. Christ ever lives to make intercession for us.

a. Since the Christian has been saved from the guilt and penalty of sin, the Lord Jesus provides the Christian with a day by day salvation from the power and dominion of sin.

Write out Romans 6:14_____

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Write out Hebrews 9:25 _____

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b. This truth speaks of the present tense. Even though a person is saved, Christians still have the disposition to sin.

Write out 1 John 2:1 _____

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2. The Christian can live a victorious life.

a. Even through a person accepts God's plan of salvation, there remains two natures within the heart and soul. There is the old Adamic nature and the divine Spiritual nature received through the new birth. These two natures are constantly striving for control. Paul declares this conflict in his own soul (Romans 7:15-25).

b. The strife in every Christian can be settled. Paul was victorious.

Write out Romans 8:1 _____

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c. The Holy Spirit will settle in the believer's heart (Romans 8:14-16).

Write out 1 John 5:20 _____

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F. SALVATION FROM THE PRESENCE OF SIN

1. Jesus shall return to take the redeemed from the presence of sin.

a. Peter spoke of the future inheritance.

2. God sees Christians as they shall be.

a. We do not expect to be the sons of God—we are! All who have accepted Christ are the sons of God NOW. Underline 1 John 3:1 in your bible.

b. We know He shall make the difference when He comes for His own. One of the precious verses you should memorize is 1 John 3:2.

G. SALVATION IS THE FREE GIFT OF GOD.

1. How can a person be saved?

a. Salvation is a gift of God to all who will believe.

Write out Ephesians 2:8-9 _____

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b. Since salvation is a gift of God and His grace is provided, what must a person do?

Admit and confess that he is a sinner (Romans 3:23).

c. A person out of Christ earns spiritual death.

Write out Romans 6:23 _____

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Wages are what we work for every day. The "*wages of sin is death*"—that is the bad part.

It is man's decision.

d. "*But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*." That is the grand and glorious gift of God. The choice is left up to the individual.

2. How can a person live the Christian life?

a. The power to live the Christian life is given to all who believe.

Write out John 1:12 _____

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b. Confess every sin and be forgiven.

Write out 1 John 1:9 _____

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