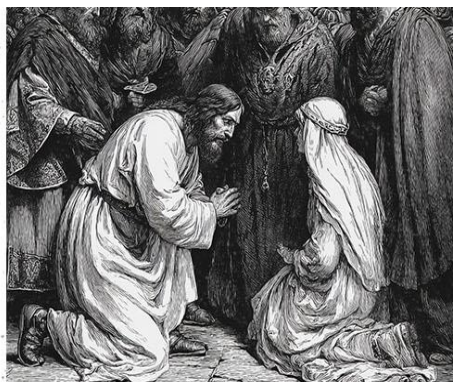
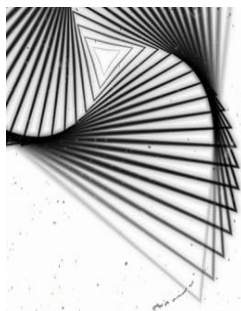
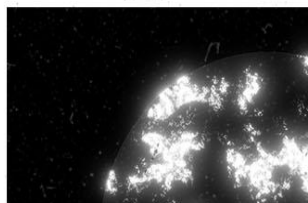
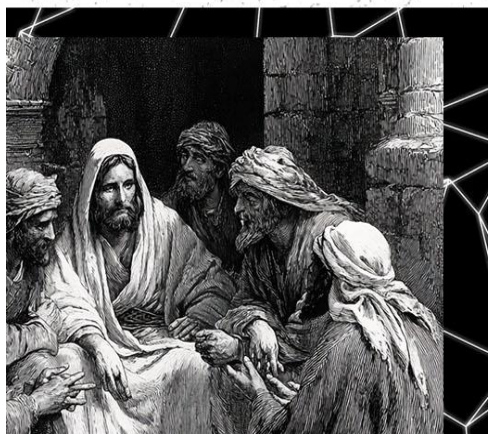




12

# GOSPEL-CENTERED FOUNDATIONS

Wk 5



# DOCTRINE of SALVATION

# 5

For by grace you have been saved through faith;  
and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God

*Eph 2:8 (NASB)*

## Intro Video

Check out the introduction video from Pastor Chase at:

[www.templebiblechurch.org/studyfall25/](http://www.templebiblechurch.org/studyfall25/)

## Overview

In this session, we will look at the doctrine of Salvation and what that means as well as a particular emphasis on justification and the exclusive nature of the Christian gospel in contrast with the surrounding culture's views.

## Warming Up

- Read Article II Section 8 from the TBC Constitution for our statement of belief regarding the doctrine of Salvation.
- What does it mean to be *saved*? Is that something you have experienced? If so, how did it happen for you?
- Was there anything in this week's sermon that you have questions about, or thought was particularly interesting?

## Wk 5 Case Study

“You Christians are so arrogant.” Beth, a visitor to your home group, expressed her displeasure with the topic the group had been discussing. “If your God is truly loving, there are a lot of other good people who he would save. There are many people more devoted to God and live better lives than some of the Christians I know. How can you say that you are the only ones who are right and everyone else in the world is wrong about how to get to heaven?”

- How would you respond to Beth?
- A large part of the population believes there is a God or *higher power* and that there is some form of heavenly existence after death. What do you think most people in the culture believe allows a person to go there? Why do you think they struggle accepting the Christian claims?

### **Helpful Definitions:**

*Salvation (Saved) – A general term used both in a broad way for being rescued from sin and judgement while being placed in a right relationship with God as well as in a narrower way as a synonym for one of the more specific terms regarding what aspects of sin we are being rescued from (See terms below). Context is important in determining what is intended.*

*Justification – The legal declarations by God that we are righteous in His sight because of Christ. This is often what people are referring to when using the word “saved” especially in the present or past tense. This is salvation from the **penalty** of sin.*

*Sanctification – Includes initial, positional “setting apart” and an ultimate “completion” of sanctification but is primarily used to refer to the continual lifelong process in which our lives grow in conformity to God’s will and Christlikeness. This is salvation from the **power** of sin.*

*Glorification – That future state when believers receive our new glorified bodies and become sinlessly perfect and set apart to God for eternity. Until such time as this occurs, it is common to talk of salvation as a future hope. This is salvation from the **presence** of sin.*

# Study & Discussion

- 1) Look up the following verses and note what you learn about salvation.

John 3:16-18

Acts 4:11-12

Acts 16:30-31

Romans 10:8-13

Ephesians 2:4-10

Titus 3:4-7

- How do you answer the question, “What must I do to be saved?”
- What does it mean to “believe in Jesus” or “have faith in Jesus”? What is it that I have to believe? Or, in other words, Jesus is the *object*, but what is the *content* of saving faith?
- How is *saving* belief different from the belief of the demons (James 2:19)?

- 2) As was mentioned in the definition section above, there are three aspects of salvation that are intertwined – justification, sanctification, and glorification. Look at the following verses and see what aspect(s) of salvation is being described and what you learn about each.

Romans 3:21-30

Romans 5:1-2

Romans 7:21-25

Romans 8:18-24

1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Philippians 2:12-13

- We will look more at *sanctification* and *glorification* in future weeks. Our focus here is on *justification*. How would you describe the meaning of *justification* in your own words?
- In light of verses like Mark 16:16 and Acts 2:38, how would you describe the relationship of baptism to salvation?

## For Deeper Reflection

- 1) Last week we saw that Christ's sacrifice on the Cross is the only sacrifice that ever paid the penalty of sin. It was the atonement for sin for both New Testament and Old Testament believers. But how did OT believers get credit for it? In other words, how were people in the Old Testament saved?
  
- 2) How would you answer someone who asks, "What becomes of those who never hear the gospel and are therefore unable to accept or reject it?" What are the key issues?
  
- 3) In addition to the very helpful systematic theology resources mentioned in the introduction to this series, below are a few resources related to the topic in this section that are good options for learning more.
  - Boice, James Montgomery & Ryken, Philip. *Doctrines of Grace*, (Crossway, 2009).
  - Sproul, R. C. *Faith Alone*, Repackaged (Baker, 2017).
  - Ortlund, Ray. *The Gospel* (Crossway, 2014).

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