

Lesson # 8 -- God's Supply in a Salvation and its Assurance.

Introduction

- A. God's provision in salvation is determined by His holy and loving character.
- B. It is important to understand that Scripture speaks of salvation in a threefold manner.
 - 1. Past tense salvation (from the penalty of sin -- the new birth), Eph. 2:8; II Tim. 1:9.
 - 2. Present tense salvation (from the power of sin -- daily sanctification), Phil. 2:12.
 - 3. Future tense salvation (from the presence of sin -- glorification), Romans 13:11; I Peter 1:5.

(All three tenses are found in II Cor. 1:10).

I. The Conditions of Salvation.

- A. Repentance -- Matt. 3:1,2; 4:17; Luke 13:3; 24:47; Acts 2:38; 20:21.
Biblical repentance is manifested in --
 - 1. In genuine sorrow and confession of sin to God, Ps. 38:18; Luke 15:21; 18:13; I John 1:9.
 - 2. In the forsaking of sin, Is. 55:7; Matt. 3:8-10; Acts 19:18,19.
 - 3. In turning to God, Acts 26:18; I Thess. 1:9.
 - 4. In restitution, Luke 19:8. (Exodus 22:1-15; Lev. 6:4,5)
- B. Faith -- John 1:12; 3:36; 5:24; Rom. 10:9,10; 10:17; Hebrews 11:6.

Faith involves knowledge (Rom. 10:17) and the decision to accept and practice that knowledge in the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, John 1:12; I John 5:11,12.

II. The Need of Salvation.

A. Stated generally:

- 1. Man is "without strength" (Rom. 5:6a) -- unable to redeem himself.
- 2. Man is "ungodly" (Rom. 5:6b) -- separated from God.
- 3. Man is a "sinner" (Rom. 5:8) -- a transgressor of God's character and law.
- 4. Man is an "enemy" (Rom. 5:10) -- at enmity with God.

B. Stated specifically:

1. Man has not fulfilled the demands of God's law -- he is unrighteous, Romans 3:10.
2. Man has transgressed God's law -- he is guilty, Romans 3:23.
3. Observation: because of this condition man is characterized by:
 - a. Guilt -- he needs forgiveness.
 - b. Unrighteousness -- he needs justification.
 - c. Death -- he needs life.
 - d. Enslavement to sin -- he needs cleansing.
 - e. Enslavement to Satan -- he needs freedom.
 - f. Alienation -- he needs reconciliation.

III. The Benefits of Salvation.

A. Stated generally:

1. Once "without strength" - now - "kept (kept saved) by His life (of intercession)," Romans 5:10.
2. Once "ungodly" - now - "justified," Rom. 5:9.
3. Once "sinners" - now - "saved from wrath," Rom. 5:9.
4. Once "enemies" - now - "reconciled," Rom. 5:10.

B. Stated specifically:

1. Forgiveness -- for man's guilt (due to his transgression of God's law) through the suffering of Jesus Christ as man's Sin-bearer, Rom. 5:6-12; II Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:13.
2. Justification -- for man's unrighteousness (due to his failure to obey God's law) through the obedience and death of Jesus Christ, Rom. 1:17; 3:21,22; 5:1,19; 8:1-4; 10:3,4.
3. Regeneration -- for man's death (the result of his sin against God) through the atonement of Jesus Christ, John 3:3-5,16,36; 10:10,28; Eph. 2:1-10; Col. 2:13.
4. Cleansing -- for man's enslavement to sin (the result of his involvement with sin through his revolt against God) through the atonement of Jesus Christ, John 8:32; Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:18.
5. Freedom -- for man's enslavement to Satan (the result of accepting the lies of the enemy with its resultant defilement) through the deliverance obtained by Jesus Christ through His atonement, Eph. 1:19-23; 6:10-18; Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14,15; I Peter 3:22; Rev. 12:10,11.
6. Adoption -- for man's alienation (the result of his revolt against God) through the reconciling work of Jesus Christ, Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5.

C. The legal character of these benefits.

The benefits of salvation belong equally to all believers, Eph. 1:3; II Peter 1:3. They are called "legal" benefits in that they depend only on the believer's acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. It is important that we do not confuse our salvation relationship with our sanctification relationship.

The Believer's STANDING
(Salvation)

1. A gift
2. Without degrees
3. Permanent
4. Depends only on Jesus Christ

The Believer's STATE
(Sanctification)

1. Claimed
2. With degrees
3. Transitory
4. Depends on Jesus Christ and our cooperation

IV. The Assurance of Salvation.

A. Assurance through observing the evidence of salvation.

1. In relation to God: obedience, I John 2:3-5.
2. In relation to the world: separation, I John 2:15-17.
3. In relation to sin: freedom, I John 3:9.
4. In relation to the brethren: love, I John 3:14.
5. In relation to the Holy Spirit: progress, I John 3:24.
6. In relation to ourselves: understanding, I John 5:20.

B. Assurance through the teaching of Scripture.

1. I John 5:9,10 -- The basis of assurance: God's character and Word.
2. I John 5:11,12 -- The content of assurance: God's provision of life in Jesus Christ and the believer's relationship to the Son.
3. I John 5:13 -- The summary of assurance: God expects you to know you have eternal life.