

## SAVED BY?...

*Today we will look at the many scriptures which are claimed to identify Christian salvation. Do they stand alone or do they need to be put into context with the rest of the gospel accounts?*

*These scriptures all have the word 'saved' contained within them... which one is the key?*

**ACT 2:21** And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall **call on the name** of the Lord shall be **saved**. *How do you call?*

**ACT 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be **saved**. *How does the name of Christ save?*

**ROM 5:9** Much more then, being now **justified by his blood**, we shall be **saved** from wrath through him. *How are we justified?*

**ROM 8:24** For we are **saved by hope**: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? *What hope?*

**ROM 9:27** Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, **a remnant shall be saved**: *Why are only a small portion saved when so many profess to have the knowledge of salvation?*

**ROM 10:9** That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth** the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe in thine heart that God hath raised him** from the dead, thou shalt be **saved**. *How does the confession save us... what happens?*

**&13** For whosoever shall **call** upon the name of the Lord shall be **saved**. *How do you call?*

**1COR 1:18** For the **preaching of the cross** is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are **saved** it is the **power of God**.

**1COR 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2** By which also ye are **saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. *What is in the gospel?*

**EPH 2:5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, **(by grace ye are saved;)** *How does grace save?*

**&8** For by **grace** are ye **saved** through **faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: *If grace saves, why is faith required?*

**2THE 2:10** And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the **love of the truth**, that they might be **saved**. *What is the love of the truth?*

**TIT 3:5** Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his **mercy** he **saved** us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; *What is the washing of regeneration and the renewing?*

*Other terms like 'saying the sinners prayer'... 'making a commitment to Christ'... 'giving ones heart to the Lord'.. etc, are also used to describe modern day salvation. All of the above need to be qualified and referenced or they only lead to confusion. Life is too important to risk on out of context scriptures or man made niceties... the bible does have detailed answers.*

*Let's look at the immediate events which followed the ascension (the return to heaven) of Jesus Christ.*

**ACT 2:1** And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

**2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

**3** And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues** (*separate languages*) like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

**4** And they were **all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. *Was this a once off event... was it limited to the early church... was it an option outside of salvation or was it the salvation referred to in all of the above scriptures? Let's read on a bit further and see how Peter explained this special event.*

**&16** But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; *They heard them speaking in tongues... this is the explanation.*

**17** And it shall come to pass in the **last** days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon **all flesh**:... *every Christian.*

**& 21** And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be **saved**. *The anointing of the Spirit was the result of calling upon the Lord... Peter identified this event as salvation. How then can it be considered an option?*

*Let's go back and look at the directions which Jesus gave just before these events began.*

**ACT 1:5** For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

**&8** But ye shall receive **power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you**: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. *Was this salvation or something else? ROM 1:16* For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the **power of God** unto **salvation** to **every one** that **believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. *The anointing of the spirit is the power that saves us from our sin!*

*This is Luke's account of the same event mentioned here in acts 1:5.*

**LUKE 24:47** And that **repentance** and **remission of sins** should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

**48** And ye are witnesses of these things. **49** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be **endued** (*clothed*) with **power** from on high. *Jesus said that the remission of sin would come through the power of the Holy Ghost. Don't do anything until you receive the anointing power of God!*

*Peter reminds them that their rejection of Christ could be remedied... many today reject Christ by preaching falsely.*

**ACT 2:37** Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

**38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized **every one** of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for** (*towards*) the **remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the **gift of the Holy Ghost**. *Is the remission of sins an optional extra?*

**39** For the **promise** is unto you, and to your children, and to **all** that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall **call**. *Is this a mere promise of optional experiences if all were going to receive it?*

*Continued over...*

**40** And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, **Save yourselves** from this untoward generation. *Was his topic about salvation or optional extras? Let's go back to Jesus... LUK 1:77 To give knowledge of **salvation** unto his people by the **remission of their sins**, How are they forgiven... what was the knowledge that saved?*

**EPH 1:13** In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your **salvation**: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed** (*confirmed, identified by a mark*) with that holy Spirit of promise, *The anointing...*

*Does the bible provide another account of this above event to act as a witness?... let's continue*

*Peter is retelling the events of the first gentile salvation quoted in the New Testament... he starts by repeating the events... The angel instructs Cornelius (a gentile) to send for Peter...*

**ACT 11:14** Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be **saved**. *The topic is clear... salvation is it.*

**15** And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, **as on us** at the **beginning** (*at the beginning of what? The beginning of optional extras or the beginning of the New Testament salvation? This helps explain the significance of the day of Pentecost.*)

**16** **Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.** *According to Jesus, John was the greatest prophet the world had ever seen... what was his prophecy? He prophesied of the baptism of the Holy Spirit... just as Jesus had also quoted. John certainly didn't refer to it as an option, nor did he indicate any other procedure by which salvation would come. Repentance by water baptism was our commitment to salvation and baptism by the Holy Spirit is God's commitment with the evidence of speaking in tongues.*

**17** Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as *he did* unto us, who **believed** on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God? *'Who was I to argue with God'?... who is anyone who argues with God's gospel? Those who truly believe receive the anointing of the Spirit! Peter has just quoted this as a fact.*

*Just a small diversion for a moment... concerning the term 'Christian'... mentioned a few verses further on.*

**&26** ... And the disciples were called **Christians first** in Antioch. *What had happened that the disciples were now being called Christians? Why weren't they called Christians while Jesus was alive? What was different now? It is interesting that none of them were called Christians till after both Jews and gentiles were baptised by the Holy Spirit... this truly identifying their similarities to Christ's ministry and experience. They were also anointed ones, just like Christ... just as John prophesied. How can you follow Christ if you don't share Christ's blessing? The word 'Christ' means 'anointed'... Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit, both Jesus and John claimed that true believers would also receive the same blessing!*

*Let's return to the previous chapter in Acts where the gentiles first received Christian salvation.*

**ACT 10:34** Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

**35** But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

**36** The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

**37** That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

**38** How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the **Holy Ghost and with power**: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

**&43** To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever **believeth** in him **shall receive remission of sins**. *Is the believing on Jesus that forgives sin or the God given gift of the Holy Spirit that makes salvation possible?*

**44** While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

**45** And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. *How do they know they were filled with the Spirit?*

**46** **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** *According to Peter, Tongues was and is the sign of the anointing of the Holy Spirit... the sign of salvation. This is the second clear account where the details support each other. These scriptures and the first two chapters of Acts are the most detailed accounts of salvation in the New Testament... why would any sane person grab an isolated scripture without detail and build a whole doctrine around it?*

**47** Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

**48** And he **commanded** them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. *Water baptism was still commanded even though they were already anointed by the Spirit. Consider the emphasis of these scriptures... the anointing of the Holy Spirit through believing in Christ... the remission of sins associated with the same event... speaking in tongues the only indication of the anointing of the Spirit... the whole package understood to be the Gentile salvation! Water baptism not overlooked nor considered to be outdated nor insignificant.*

*Salvation is not based on one word. It is a combination of commitments and obediences to specific spiritual commitments. God answers in signs and wonders and miracles... not just in powerless human confessions.*

**1COR 1:18** For the **preaching of the cross** (*the gospel*) is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are **saved** it is the **power of God**. *If the doctrine doesn't lead to the anointing of the Spirit... it doesn't lead to salvation.*