

Topic: Salvation explored

Acts 16:25 - 32 (NASB)

²⁵BUT ABOUT MIDNIGHT PAUL AND SILAS WERE PRAYING AND SINGING HYMNS OF PRAISE TO GOD, AND THE PRISONERS WERE LISTENING TO THEM; ²⁶AND SUDDENLY THERE CAME A GREAT EARTHQUAKE, SO THAT THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE PRISON HOUSE WERE SHAKEN; AND IMMEDIATELY ALL THE DOORS WERE OPENED AND EVERYONE'S CHAINS WERE UNFASTENED. ²⁷WHEN THE JAILER AWOKE AND SAW THE PRISON DOORS OPENED, HE DREW HIS SWORD AND WAS ABOUT TO KILL HIMSELF, SUPPOSING THAT THE PRISONERS HAD ESCAPED. ²⁸BUT PAUL CRIED OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE, SAYING, "DO NOT HARM YOURSELF, FOR WE ARE ALL HERE!" ²⁹AND HE CALLED FOR LIGHTS AND RUSHED IN, AND TREMBLING WITH FEAR HE FELL DOWN BEFORE PAUL AND SILAS, ³⁰AND AFTER HE BROUGHT THEM OUT, HE SAID, "SIRS, WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?"

³¹THEY SAID, "BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED, YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD." ³²AND THEY SPOKE THE WORD OF THE LORD TO HIM TOGETHER WITH ALL WHO WERE IN HIS HOUSE.

1. Who saves us? Ans. Jesus alone!

EPH 2:8 - 10 (NLT) ⁸GOD SAVED YOU BY HIS GRACE WHEN YOU BELIEVED. AND YOU CAN'T TAKE CREDIT FOR THIS; IT IS A GIFT FROM GOD. (JESUS = GOD)

⁹SALVATION IS NOT A REWARD FOR THE GOOD THINGS WE HAVE DONE, SO NONE OF US CAN BOAST ABOUT IT.

¹⁰FOR WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECE. HE HAS CREATED US ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS, SO WE CAN DO THE GOOD THINGS HE PLANNED FOR US LONG AGO.

2. *Saved from what?*

Answer: Sin, death and hell. (*Habitual sin, eternal death and the Lake of Fire!*)

ROMANS 6:23, "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." DEATH, HELL, ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. IT MEANS TO BE RESCUED FROM IMMINENT DEADLY DANGER.

1. *Jesus saves us from all past sin by His death on the cross.*

1 JOHN 1:9 (KJV) ⁹IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US *OUR* SINS, AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

2. *Jesus saves us from present sin by the gift of the Holy Spirit:*

GAL 5:16 (NLT) ¹⁶SO I SAY, LET THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDE YOUR LIVES. THEN YOU WON'T BE DOING WHAT YOUR SINFUL NATURE CRAVES.

3. *Jesus saves from future sin by glorification.*

1 COR 15:51 - 55 (NLT)

⁵²IT WILL HAPPEN IN A MOMENT, IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, WHEN THE LAST TRUMPET IS BLOWN. FOR WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDS, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED WILL BE RAISED TO LIVE FOREVER. AND WE WHO ARE LIVING WILL ALSO BE TRANSFORMED.

⁵³FOR OUR DYING BODIES MUST BE TRANSFORMED INTO BODIES THAT WILL NEVER DIE; OUR MORTAL BODIES MUST BE TRANSFORMED INTO IMMORTAL BODIES.

WHAT IS REALLY CONSIDERED SIN?

1 Cor 6:9 - 10 (NLT) ⁹Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality,
¹⁰or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God.

Gal 5:19 - 25 (NLT) ¹⁹When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,
²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,
²¹envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.
²²But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!
²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.
²⁵Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

Eph 2:1 - 5 (NLT) ¹Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.
²You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. ⁴But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

Romans 1:18 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness.

James 4:17 (NLT) ¹⁷Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

Monday Morning Moment

When He is brought into the picture, God makes all the difference.

"But God" Verses: *"But God..."These two words signal a change, a contrast, or a clarification is coming next. "But God." What follows this significant transition is intended to challenge our faith and change our life.*

- But as for you, ye thought evil against me; **but God** meant it unto good ... to save much people alive (Genesis 50:20).
- Nevertheless the Lord thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; **but the Lord thy God** turned the curse into a blessing unto thee (Deuteronomy 23:5).
- And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, **but God** delivered him not into his hand (1 Samuel 23:14).
- And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, **but God's** (2 Chronicles 20:15).
- My flesh and my heart faileth: **but God** is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever (Psalms 73:26).

- They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood. **But the Lord** is my defense; and **my God** is the rock of my refuge (Psalm 94:21,22).
- The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: **but God** shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind (Isaiah 17:13).
- Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, show unto the king; **but there is a God** in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days (Daniel 2:27,28).
- When Jesus saw their faith, He said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this Man thus speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins **but God** only? (Mark 2:5-7).
- They took Him down from the tree, and laid Him in a sepulchre. **But God** raised Him from the dead (Acts 13:29,30).
- For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. **But God** commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:7,8).

- I have planted, Apollos watered; **but God** gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; **but God** that giveth the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6,7).
- There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: **but God** is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- For indeed [Epaphroditus] was sick nigh unto death: **but God** had mercy on him; and not on him only, but on me also (Philippians 2:27).