

Salvation - cont.

Some people teach that you are saved by faith only; just “believe in Jesus as your personal savior” and you will be saved, or “pray the sinner’s prayer” and you will be saved. Yes, we must have faith in Jesus, but that faith must be coupled with the obedience of repentance, confession and baptism (Romans 10:10; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 1:13; Philippians 2:12; Hebrews 5:9). When people teach that baptism has nothing to do with salvation, they are just wrong (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21). When people teach that Christ, not the church, is necessary for salvation, they are just wrong (Colossians 1:18,24).

8. Once Saved, Always Saved

Some people teach that once a person is saved, he is always saved. They believe that a saved person can never so sin as to fall from grace. This may be a comforting doctrine to many, but it is not the Bible truth. We have examples of people falling from grace (Acts 8:20-24), we have plain statements about falling (Galatians 5:4), and we have warnings about falling (Heb. 12:15). What more do you need?

Friends, salvation misconceptions taught and believed allow people to act

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anyway they want in life. These misconceptions allow people to keep from making a commitment, keep from being restricted, allow fellowship with more people, and make others feel comfortable.

However, salvation as planned and taught by God in the Bible is different; it is strict. We must never be ashamed of true Bible salvation (Romans 1:16). Now is the time for true salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2)! Will you believe and obey God’s true plan of salvation? - *Chris Reeves*

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is revealed a righteousness of God from faith unto faith: as it is written, But the righteous shall live by faith.
- Romans 1:16-17 -

The salvation of man is the central theme of the Bible and covers the entire Bible. Yet, salvation is one of the most misunderstood subjects of all time. Many religious people today do not accept Bible truth on the subject of salvation. In fact, many if not most, religious persons twist the Bible truth on the subject. Let's consider in this article some common salvation misconceptions that are taught and propagated today around the world.

1. No Such Thing As Salvation

There are many people in the world who do not teach the Bible truth on the subject of salvation because they do not believe they need to be saved from anything, especially from sin. They say that there is no such thing as salvation from sin; no need for salvation. Many secular and atheistic people take this position. But, they ignore a very big event in history. Jesus

came to seek and to save the lost, and so we need to be preaching salvation to the lost (Luke 19:9-10).

2. No Salvation from Sin

Some people teach that others need saving, but "salvation" is merely the improvement of society or their environment. Similar to the first misconception, there are people who do not believe in sin (a violation God's law), they just believe that society needs to be "saved" from things like poverty, lack of education, poor health care, etc. They believe the world needs "saving" through better government programs, but in fact, the world needs saving from sin through Jesus (Luke 1:77; 2 Timothy 2:10).

3. Everyone Will Be Saved

Some people teach that everyone in the world will eventually be saved. They believe that God is too good to punish anyone in hell, so all people will go to heaven, but God has a severe side as well as a good side and he will punish the wicked (Romans 11:22; Hebrews 2:3).

4. There Are Many Saviors

Some people teach that there are many saviors and many ways to get to heav-

en. They believe that you can be saved by Muhammed, Buddha, Confucius, Jesus, etc., but Jesus said he was the only way to God (John 14:6) and Peter preached the same thing (Acts 4:12).

5. All Believers Will Be Saved

Some people teach that you have to believe in Jesus to be saved, but any believer of any denomination will be saved. Just "choose the church of your choice" and you will be saved. Yes, all believers will be saved, but only the believers who actually do the will of the Father (found in the NT and not in denominational teaching) will be saved (Matthew 7:21-22; Luke 6:46).

6. Goodness Alone Saves

Some people teach that being a good person alone will save you. They believe that being good like paying your taxes, being nice to others, showing up at work, etc., will save you, but we are told of good people in the New Testament (like Cornelius) who were still lost in sin until they obeyed the gospel (Acts 10:2; 11:14).

7. Saved by Faith Only

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