

Christian Doctrine Salvation (Part 5) The Offer of Salvation

Understanding the Offer of Salvation

In God's offer of salvation, mankind receives all the benefits of what Christ accomplished on the cross. So, what is required to receive this offer of salvation? What exactly must a person do in order to be saved? Let's answer this by looking at what Scripture says about salvation. Salvation is:

➤ **A Free Gift**

Salvation is considered a gift we receive from God:

- It is offered free of charge (Rom. 3:24, 5:15-16; 6:23).
- Nothing can be done to earn it (Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9).

➤ **Based on Christ's Work**

The basis of our salvation is Christ's work on the cross:

- He accomplished everything we needed (Rom. 5:6-11).
- Good works do not earn us merit with God (Titus 3:5).

➤ **Received through Faith Alone**

Salvation is by God's grace and received through faith:

- It is given by God's grace (Rom. 4:2-5, 16; Titus 2:11).
- We receive it through faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 3:21-22; 4:5; 5:1; Eph. 2:8). Faith entails:
 - > Knowing the truth of the gospel - who Christ is and what He did (John 20:31; I Cor. 15:3-4).
 - > Recognizing our own need for salvation (John 3:7; Rom. 3:23; Gal. 3:22).
 - > Placing our trust completely in Christ (John 3:14-16; 14:6; Acts 16:30-31).

The heart of salvation is realizing that Christ is our only hope. Note these biblical terms that are linked to salvation:

- Repentance: means "a change of mind." It refers to a person turning from whatever may be preventing them from coming to Christ (Acts 17:30; 19:4; 20:21).
- Lordship: placing one's self under the lordship of Christ. This is the natural result of seeing Christ for who He is and being set free from our sin (Rom. 6:22).

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