

## Christian Doctrine Salvation (Part 8)

### Salvation from an Eternal Perspective

#### *Salvation Seen from Eternity to Eternity*

Salvation is the amazing truth of God's love and grace toward mankind. One last aspect we will look at is the plan and purpose of salvation seen from an eternal perspective.

#### ➤ **God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility**

God's plan of salvation reveals that we as believers are God's special people whom He foreknew before time began. This truth may at times go beyond our own comprehension, but note the truths Scripture reveals about both God's sovereignty and man's responsibility:

- Before creation, God chose and determined who would be saved (God's sovereignty), yet whosoever comes to Christ in faith will be saved (man's responsibility). (Acts 13:48; Eph. 1:4; John 3:16; Rom. 10:13)
- Only those who God draws to Himself can and will be saved (God's sovereignty), yet all people are told to repent and believe (man's responsibility). (John 6:37, 44, 65; Acts 2:37-38; 17:30)

How to make sense of these issues is a matter of debate, but there is no doubt that God is fair and just, that salvation is offered to all, and that it is God's desire for all to be saved, though not all will come to faith in Christ (I John 2:2; I Tim. 2:3-6; II Pet. 3:9).

#### ➤ **God's Plan on into Eternity Future**

Our salvation, which has delivered us from the punishment and power of sin, will also deliver us from the very presence of sin in the future (and on into eternity).

Glorification: This is the final step of our salvation when God will give us perfect resurrected bodies. This is what we as believers long for (Rom. 8:17, 23):

- Complete and final victory over death (I Cor. 15:54)
- Removal of the presence of sin (Eph. 5:27; I John 3:2)
- A glorious state of perfect health (I Cor. 15:42-49)
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