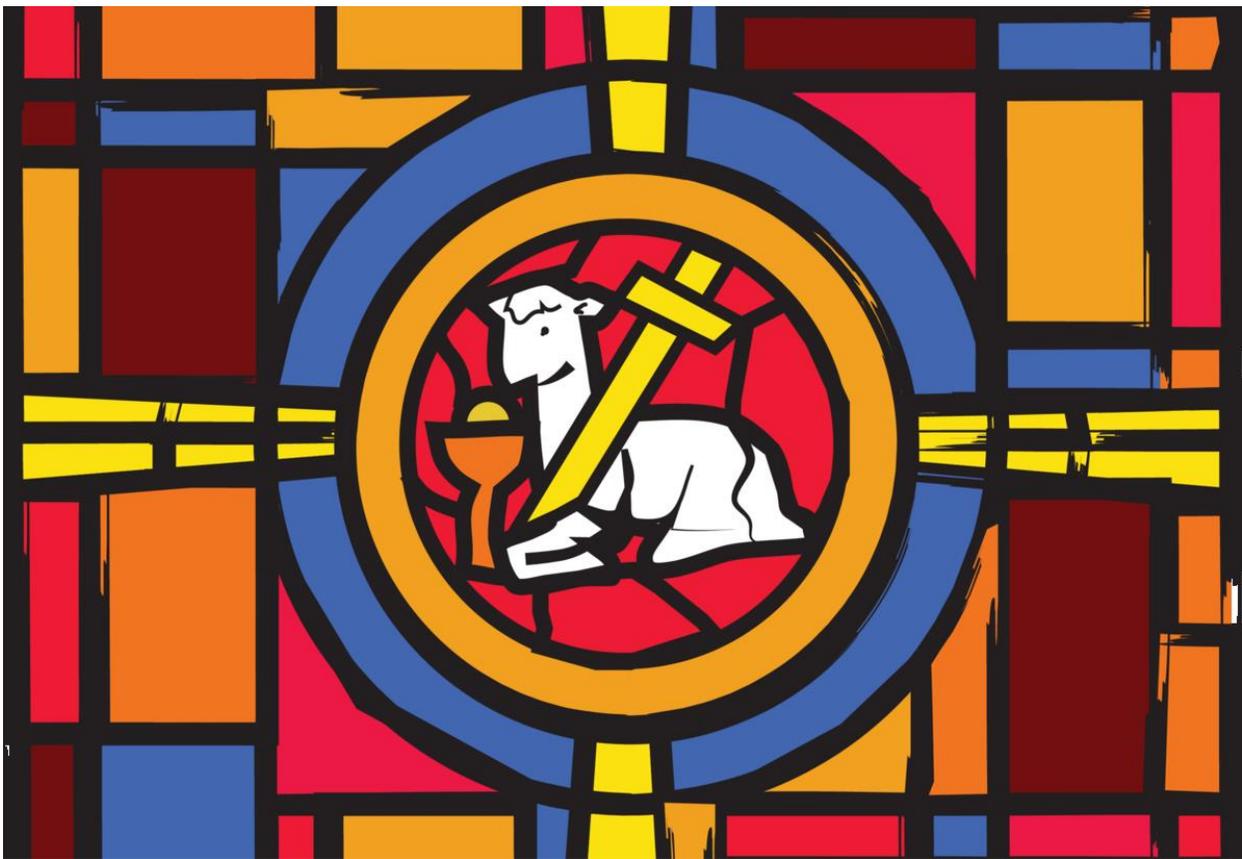




Salvation by Grace Through Faith

Key Doctrines for Starting and Finishing Strong

LESSON 6 | Part 2



"Salvation is not a cafeteria where you take what you want and leave the rest."

"You cannot take Christ as Savior and refuse Him as Lord and be saved."

VANCE HAVNER

In this lesson, we will study one essential subject:

- **What are the Different Aspects of Salvation?**

Are the following statements true or false? (circle one)



- God sees that a person will trust Him and then chooses to save him. T F
- Man may be saved by grace but he must stay saved by works. T F

Be on the lookout for the answers to these questions as we study the Word of God.

Different Aspects of Salvation

First, let's consider *the aspects of salvation*, objective in nature, that deal with God's view: *election, atonement, propitiation, justification, and substitution*.

- A. **Election** (*Rom.8:28-30; 1 Pet.1:1-2*)—This aspect of salvation refers to that sovereign act of God whereby He graciously chose, in Jesus Christ for salvation, all those whom He foreknew. This choice by God was not based upon the works of man, because our works are utterly worthless before Him (*Is.64:6*). It also was not based on the merit of man, because man deserved judgment. God chose the elect based upon the merits of another: Christ (*Eph.1:4*).
- B. **Atonement** (*Lev.4:20, 5:10, 8:34, 10:17, 14:21, 16:6, 17:11*)—This word is not used in the New Testament, but is used 150 times in the Old. The word for "atonement" in Hebrew "kaphar" means *to cover, to placate, or to cancel*. It conveys the sense of *appeasing, cleansing, forgiving, pacifying, and purging*. The atonement describes the totality of Christ's work on the cross. The idea of atonement involves:
1. Substitution—taking the place of the one to whom punishment is due (*1 Pet.3:18; Mark 10:45*).
 2. Propitiation or satisfaction—satisfying the demands of a holy God and thus averting God's wrath and judgment (*1 John 2:2, 4:10; Rom.3:23-25*).
 3. Reconciliation—not only the removal of that which brought separation, namely sin, but also the establishment of a relationship (*2 Cor.5:19*).
- C. **Propitiation** (*Rom.3:23-25; Heb.2:17*)—this means *the turning away of wrath by an offering*. Christ was not only *the offering* that was acceptable to God as the payment for sin, but He was also *the place where propitiation was made*. He was, and is, the "mercy seat" (*Heb.9:5, 11-12, 23-26*).
- D. **Justification** (*Rom.5:1*)—This word means *to declare righteous*. Justification is *a declarative act*; it is not something done *in* man or *to* man, but declared *of* man. It does not *make us righteous*, but it *declares or announces* in the courts of heaven that *we have been made righteous because of the merits of Christ* (*2 Cor.5:17*). Justification is more than *acquittal*; it is also a *restoration to favor with God*. The flipside of this doctrine is *the doctrine of adoption*—the placing of each believer into the family of God with the full rights of an adult son or daughter.

- E. **Substitution** (1 Pet.3:18, 2:24; 2 Cor.5:21; Gal.3:13; Is.53:6)—The Bible clearly teaches that Christ's sacrifice was not a matter of *sympathy*, but of *substitution*. Man could only personally atone for his sins if he could eternally suffer the penalty that sin incurred. Man, of course, could never do this, so in His love and compassion, God stepped into a hopeless situation and provided a *substitute* (Rom.5:6-8).

Now let's consider the aspects of salvation that are from man's point of view: *conversion*, *regeneration*, and *sanctification*.

- A. **Conversion** (Matt.18:3)—This is that *turning to God that represents the human response to the call of God*. It consists of two elements: *repentance* (Luke 13:5) and *faith* (Heb.11:6). In conversion, repentance is the *turning of the soul from sin*, and faith is the *turning of the soul to God*.

- B. **Regeneration** (Titus 3:5)—Unlike *justification*, which is the change of the believer's position before God, regeneration is *the change that happens in the heart of the one justified*. Regeneration is the impartation of the nature of Christ to the believer. This is called being "*born again*" (John 3:3). The results of regeneration are:

1. Overcoming *temptation* (1 John 3:9, 5:4, 18)
2. A love of *the brethren* (1 John 3:14)
3. A love for *God and His Word* (1 John 4:19; Ps.119:97)
4. An assurance of *being a child of God* (Rom.8:16)

- C. **Sanctification**—This is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God and are enabled more and more to *die to sin and live unto righteousness*. Why is it important to understand that salvation is by grace alone?

1. It *glorifies* God. (Eph.2:5-9)
2. If salvation is not by grace, then Christ died *needlessly*. (Gal.2:21)
3. To deny that salvation is by grace alone would give man something to *boast* about. (Rom.4:2, 3:27-28)
4. It reflects the Scriptural view of man, that he is totally depraved (*has an absolute inability to save himself*) and in need of a *Savior*. (Rom.3:10-18)
5. To believe that salvation is by works is to reject the *purpose* of the Law. (Gal.2:16; Rom.3:20)
6. It reveals the *mercy* of God to forgive damned sinners by grace alone. (Titus 3:5)
7. It reveals *the righteousness of God* and rejects *the righteousness of man*. (Rom.1:16-17, 3:21-25; Is.64:6)

Reflection:

Read Hebrews 2:1-3 and *thoughtfully discuss* and *reflect* on these questions.

- A. How can we neglect so great a salvation?

- B. How does it make you feel knowing how *"great a salvation"* this is?

- C. What does it make you want to do?

Closing:

Application questions: Being a Doer of the Word

- **2 Timothy 3:16**—*"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching [what is right], for reproof [what is not right], for correction [how to get right], for training in righteousness [how to stay right]; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."*
1. What did I learn ("teaching")?
 2. Where do I fall short ("reproof")?
 3. What do I need to do about it ("correction")?
 4. How can I make this a consistent part of my life ("training")?

Answer Key:

Are the following statements true or false?

- F
- F

Holy Habits Weekly Devotion



This week's memory verse: **John 3:3**—*"Jesus answered and said to him, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.'"*

This week's holy habit: **Giving**

Being good and faithful stewards with our money blesses the entire faith family. Just as it is in your home, financial resources and time are necessary for the maintenance and minimal day-to-day operations of the church. In the early church, God's people supported the temple and the needs of one another (*Acts 2:44-46*). They could share the gifts that were given to them, because of their focus on Christ. Let us strive to give to the best of our ability with a cheerful heart.

DAY 1 Read Acts 4:32-37.

- How can you unselfishly show great generosity in a practical way?

DAY 2 Read Genesis 1:27-30.

- Think of your gifts and resources. How are you utilizing them as you fulfill your role in the faith community?

DAY 3 Read Luke 21:1-4.

- When something that is necessary competes for our money, our service, or our sleep, we can become very uncomfortable. In what ways could you imitate the generosity of the widow?

DAY 4 Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-7.

- Reflect on the times that God has blessed you abundantly by allowing you to see the principle of reaping and sowing in your life. Thank Him and pray for more opportunities to sow generously.

DAY 5 Read Luke 6:38.

- Our Father's ultimate gift to us is salvation. It is given with the purest of love. Pray that your love for others will lead you to be more giving for the purpose of glorifying Christ at home, at church, at work, and in your community.

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