

THE PURPOSE OF OUR SALVATION

The purpose of our salvation is to be made a new creation in Christ Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:17

The goal of our salvation includes our glorification. Romans 8:30

Lost sinners under the conviction of the Holy Spirit who realize their condemnation under the burden of sin are free to engage in the mercy and grace of God through Jesus. 2 Cor. 5:19

Believing in Jesus alone for release from the burden of sin and restoration to a new life in Christ through the indwelling Holy Spirit results in the new birth. Believing in and receiving Christ as Savior and Lord is the sinner's way of entering into eternal life.

John 1:12 Romans 5:17; 10:12,13 The sinner's way is Christ. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. John 14:6 The desire of a true believer is to be removed from sin and restored to righteousness. God made Jesus the sin offering who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Christ. 2 Cor. 5:21

Jesus, the sin offering, reversed the rule of the law of sin and death over all creation. Adam sinned one time and put all creation in bondage to the rule of the law of sin and death. Adam was warned of the law of sin and death and fell to its curse. Genesis 2,3

Jesus nailed the rule of the law of sin and death with all its ramifications to His Cross. Sinners who allow the Spirit to bring them to saving faith are free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

Jesus arose, as the Second Adam, with all power and authority to free all creation from the rule of the law of sin and death. At the Great White Throne Judgment, all unbelievers will be cast into the lake of fire, heaven and earth will be cleansed by fire and a new heaven and new earth will emerge where God will dwell on earth with the redeemed for all eternity. At last, God's will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Jesus Christ is God in human form. Only the divine Lord could die as the perfect, sinless, and complete sacrifice for our sins. Jesus' sinless death won the victory because He allowed sin to condemn itself by killing the innocent Jesus. Romans 8:3 Sin nailed Jesus to the Cross, and He bore all humanity's sin as God the Father laid all our iniquity on His conscious mind and

knowledge. The torture and torment of sin against the mind of Jesus killed the physical body of the Holy Son of God. Isaiah 53:11,6,5

Jesus' one act of righteousness, sinless death at the hands of sin, gained Jesus the right as a man to remove sin from all creation. Adam brought sin into creation, Jesus will take away the sin of the world. Sin is condemned and sentenced to removal. New Creation is guaranteed by the death and resurrection of Jesus. New Creation is under way now in the life of all who trust Jesus as Savior and follow Him as Lord. Salvation and Redemption is all about New Creation.

Romans 5:18-19

God does not ignore sin or compromise His justice. The cross happened so that God "might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." Romans 3:26 God does not sacrifice His holiness in order to give repentant sinners eternal life. God satisfies justice by making the repentant sinner a new creation in Christ. The new creation is changed. New birth instigates sin removal through sanctification and ultimate removal of the believer from all sin at glorification. The glorified believer is totally sinless and totally righteous. There is no penalty against the new creation. Justice is satisfied by changing the believer, and not by changing God. God does not need to be appeased or changed in order to satisfy justice. Since righteousness is guaranteed in the believer, God is truly free to credit the believer with righteousness. God is truly just in giving the believer eternal life because the believer is a new creation. Jesus satisfies God's justice for us by changing us into new creations.

A false view of God's justice says that either justice will be paid by the actual sinner or will be paid in full by Jesus standing in the sinner's place and receiving the punishment that the sinner deserves. This earthly mindset misses the whole point of the new creation. The new creation is no longer under condemnation and has been freed from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

When the lost pray a prayer to receive Jesus and they are only concerned with a ticket to avoid punishment for sin, the damage is hard to overcome. When the saved hear a steady diet of evangelistic phrases concerning forgiveness and protection from punishment, the slide into rationalizing and excusing sin is nearly inevitable. The common thread of all the unbiblical

phrases arises from the false belief that we are saved by Jesus' death. The Bible teaches that we are saved by His resurrection life (Romans 5:10). Jesus' sinless death makes the "Way" to life possible. Without His sinless death which condemns sin to the utmost, there would be no salvation and no redemption (Romans 8:3).

The following unbiblical statements arising from false beliefs about the death of Jesus, cause damage to the saved and the unsaved.

God poured out His wrath on Jesus in your place.

God punished Jesus in your place so that your sins can be forgiven.

Jesus paid your sin debt so you don't have to pay it.

Jesus paid your penalty for your sin.

Jesus became sin and bore God's punishment for your sin.

Jesus willingly took upon Himself the guilt of sinners.

Jesus died to appease the wrath of an offended God.

God's justice demands that sin be punished.

God needs the penalty of sin to be paid.

God cannot freely forgive sin without the sin being paid for.

The previous unbiblical statements about the substitutionary work of Christ have deceived many. Search the Scripture and you will not find even one of these statements.

A correct view of the substitutionary work of Christ is found in Romans chapter 5. Jesus is humanity's God given substitute for Adam by which sin is defeated and new creation is guaranteed.

God freely forgives sin without needing retribution for that sin. God requires us to freely forgive without requiring a retribution for the wrong done against us. The justice of God does not put demands on His forgiveness.

God is just in forgiving the believing sinner because the life giving resurrected Christ makes the believer a new creation who is immediately declared complete in Christ. Glorification of

the born again believer is guaranteed (Romans 8:30). The new creation is totally sinless and totally righteous in his glorified final condition. There is no condemnation for being totally sinless and totally righteous. There is no punishment for sin toward the believer because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). Justice does not demand punishment of the believer because the believer is no longer under condemnation (Romans 8:1).

The Cross did not make God able to forgive. The Cross gave Jesus the legal right as Second Adam to make us into new creations (2 Cor. 5:17-19; Rom. 5:15-19).

God does not torture people. God judges people. In Judgment, God will send the unbeliever away from Him for all eternity.

Many church leaders are failing in their personal lives because of doctrinal error which they are hearing and which they are preaching. Some are losing their churches and some are taking their own lives due to frustration over personal sin. Doctrinal error concerning the substitutionary work of Christ is contributing to suicide in church leaders. Participation by the born again believer in the cross of Christ is essential. The Bible teaches that we are to die to sin and be raised to new life in Christ under the power of the Holy Spirit. Our participation in the cross has been replaced by false teaching about Christ's substitutionary work.