

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Salvation

"He who created us without our help will not save us without our consent" – Augustine

"I haven't to this day gotten over my salvation." – David Crain

"There is but one Church in which men find salvation, just as outside the ark of Noah it was not possible for anyone to be saved." – Thomas Aquinas

"If there were more than one path to salvation then it would totally negate Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, His life, His teachings." – Josh McDowell

"The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, said an eminent scholar, have God for their Author, the Salvation of mankind for their end, and Truth without any mixture of error for their matter." – Adam Clarke

The word *salvation* is found 162 times in the New King James Version of Scripture. Its frequency should tell us that it is an extremely important subject. Indeed, "Salvation belongs to the Lord" (Psa. 3:8).

One of the popular passages says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son in the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17). Here again the importance of salvation is amplified when we read of the concern for the salvation of those of the world. When we consider in our time that more than seven billion inhabitant this planet, it is a grave matter indeed.

But what are we to be saved from? In Rom. 5:9 Paul speaks of being saved from wrath. It is a reference to God's wrath. Being a holy, righteous, and just God, we know that He cannot tolerate sin (Isa. 59:1-2). Sin demands a payment. Paul speaks of it as the wages of sin, which fruit is death (Rom. 6:23). But it is not an earthly death that Paul writes of, but an eternal separation from God.

The only way to avoid being lost for eternity is to find salvation which is made possible by Christ. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Many good folks today know nothing about salvation. They think that going to heaven has its basis in good moral living. The truth is, you can't get to heaven without Jesus!