



# Fundamentals - Class 1

## *Salvation*

### *The Breakdown*

1. WHAT IS SIN?
  2. FREE WILL
  3. BAPTISMS
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## 1. WHAT IS SIN?

### A) Sin Defined

Sin simply means “missing the mark.” What *mark* are we missing? Perfection. The problem we all face is that no one can attain this lofty mark. No one has ever been perfect. No one is perfect. Nor will anyone ever be perfect. *Except* for Jesus. This secures an even playing field for every person.

**Discussion question:** what are some examples of sin?

**Answer:** Galatians 5:19-21 (sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.)

**Romans 3:23-24** <sup>“23</sup> *For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.* <sup>24</sup> *Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.”* (NLT)

### B) Are All Sins Equal?

There are two men named Matthew and Peter. Matthew is a successful accountant but embezzles money for himself, making him a thief. Peter is an experienced fisherman but back at the dock, when all the boats have returned from their long day of work, Peter regularly lies to his fellow fishermen about how many fish he catches, making him a liar.

**Discussion question:** which of these two would you say has the greater sin?

**Answer:** both have sinned equally. The world compares sin against sin. Example: Murders are worse than thieves, pedophiles are worse than liars, and so on. But God compares sin against Himself. Therefore, no sin is worse than the other. Whether we have sinned once or a thousand times, we are all equally in need of the Savior.

**James 2:10-11** <sup>“10</sup> *For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God’s laws.* <sup>11</sup> *For the same God who said, “You must not commit adultery,” also said, “You must not murder.” So if you murder someone but do not commit adultery, you have still broken the law.”* (NLT)



### C) The Wages of Sin

When we go to work, we earn a wage. The wage we are given is the reward for our labor. Similarly, death is the wage we are rewarded with for living a life of sin. Death in *this* life is guilt, shame, regret, loneliness, isolation, insecurities, etc. Death in the *next* life is eternity in hell (eternal separation from God). Is Hell hot, cold, dark, bright? No one knows for sure. But regardless of its appearance or temperature, Hell is simply the continuation of what we experience in this life apart from God.

**Discussion question:** what was your life like before you gave it to Jesus?

**Answer:** discuss.

**Romans 6:20-23** <sup>20</sup> *For when you were bound as servants to sin, you lived your lives free from any obligation to righteousness.* <sup>21</sup> *So tell me, what benefit ensued from doing those things that you're now ashamed of? It left you with nothing but a legacy of shame and death.* <sup>22</sup> *But now, as God's loving servants, you live in joyous freedom from the power of sin. So consider the benefits you now enjoy—you are brought deeper into the experience of true holiness that ends with eternal life!* <sup>23</sup> *For sin's meager wages is death, but God's lavish gift is life eternal, found in your union with our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.*" (TPT)

### D) The Solution to Sin

There is only One who lived a perfect life as a human, and that was Jesus. We needed a sinless sacrifice to pay the price of death, once and for all. God loved the world so much that He decided to send His only Son, Jesus, to bear our guilt and shame so that all who believe in Him can be restored to proper relationship with the Father and experience everlasting life. In this life *and* the next. This is the process of being saved/born again (John 3:16, John 10:10).

**Discussion question:** what must one do to be saved?

**Answer:** We must repent of our sin and put our faith in Jesus. Acts 16:30-31 <sup>30</sup> *Then he brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"* <sup>31</sup> *They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household."*)

**2 Corinthians 5:21** *"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."* (ESV)

### E) Grace Not Works

As a friend or family member gives you a gift on your birthday, so does God give us forgiveness of sin on our spiritual birthday (when we are born-again). You do not earn the presents given to you on your birthday, they are freely given because you were born. Similarly, you do not earn forgiveness. It is freely given the moment you repent from sin and are born-again.

**Discussion question:** what does it mean to repent?

**Answer:** repentance is two-fold. First, there must be a verbal acknowledgement of our wrongdoing to God. This is what it means to confess our sin. Secondly, to repent literally means to change the way you think. For example: to make a 180-degree turn. Repentance means to confess our sin and change the way we think.



**1 John 1:9** *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (NKJV)

## 2. FREE WILL

God has supreme power and authority over all things. He can do anything he wants at any given time without needing permission. For the sake of relationship, He grants each person free will to make their own decision to either accept Him or reject Him.

The Bible is clear that we are all given free will:

- **2 Peter 3:9** *“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, **not wishing that any should perish**, but that **all should reach repentance.**”* (ESV)
- **John 3:16** *“For God so loved the **world**, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**”* (ESV)
- **Romans 10:13** *“For **“whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”**”* (NKJV)
- **Mark 16:15-16** *“And He said to them, **“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”*** (NKJV)

God is all powerful and can punt the earth into another galaxy if He wants to. But in His incredible love for each person that He handcrafted, He has granted free will to either love Him or deny Him.

## 3. BAPTISMS

### A) Water Baptism

Jesus was baptized in water by John the Baptist. His water baptism was not only a prophetic picture and public confession of His faith, but it was also a supernatural experience which every believer gets to partake in.

A few water baptisms in the Bible:

- Jesus – Matthew 3:16
- Many followers of Jesus – John 4:1
- About 3000 people – Acts 2:41
- Ethiopian Eunuch – Acts 8:38
- Apostle Paul – Acts 9:18
- Cornelius household – Acts 10:48

When we are baptized in water, we are partnering with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. We go down into the water, symbolizing we have died to our old life. We come up out of the water, symbolizing being raised to life in Jesus.

**Matthew 28:18-20** *“<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, **“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Amen.” (NKJV)



## B) Holy Spirit Baptism

In John 20:22, Jesus breathed on His disciples and told them to “**receive the Holy Spirit.**” This was their born-again experience. When we are born-again, we all receive the Holy Spirit within us at that moment. After Jesus did this, in Acts chapter 1:5, He promised the same individuals that they would soon “**be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**” Every believer has the Holy Spirit within them, but every believer may also experience the Holy Spirit coming upon them.

	<b>Fruit</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Scripture</b>
<b>Holy Spirit Within Me</b>	Convicts, comforts, helps, leads, etc.	You	At Salvation	Free	Ephesians 1:13
<b>Holy Spirit Upon Me</b>	Activates power to witness & spiritual gifts.	Jesus & Those Around You	At Baptism	Free	Acts 1:8 Luke 24:48-49

Often in the scriptures, when a believer is baptized in the Holy Spirit they begin to speak in tongues and/or prophesy. The same is true today:

- Acts 2:1-4
- Acts 10:44-46
- Acts 19:5-6

## C) Who is the Promise for?

**Acts 1:4-5** *“<sup>4</sup> And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the **Promise** of the Father, “**which,**” He said, “**you have heard from Me;** <sup>5</sup> **for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**”” (NKJV)*

**Acts 1:8** *“**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**” (NKJV)*

**Acts 2:14-21** *“<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. <sup>15</sup> For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup> But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:*

*<sup>17</sup> ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on **all flesh;** Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.*

*<sup>18</sup> And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.*

*<sup>19</sup> I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath:*



*Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.*

<sup>20</sup> *The sun shall be turned into darkness,*

*And the moon into blood,*

*Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.*

<sup>21</sup> *And it shall come to pass*

*That whoever calls on the name of the Lord*

*Shall be saved.” (NKJV)*

**Acts 2:38-39** <sup>38</sup> *Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the **promise** is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” (NKJV)*

**Discussion Questions:**

- 1) Who is the baptism of the Holy Spirit for?
- 2) Does the Promise have an expiration date?
- 3) Can you earn the Promise through your own works?

**Answers:**

- 1) All who give their lives to Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:39)
- 2) The Word of God makes it clear that the Promise of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is available to all who believe until the very end of time. (Acts 2:17)
- 3) The Promise is a gift that cannot be earned. Jesus purchased the gift with His very life and gives freely to all who believe. (Acts 2:39)



# Fundamentals - Class 1

## *Salvation – QUIZ*

*Directions: Answer the following multiple-choice questions using your notes and Bible.*

1. **What is the definition of sin?**
  - a. Trying hard to be perfect
  - b. Being rich
  - c. Missing the mark
  
2. **Are all sins equal to God?**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Neither
  
3. **What is the wage of sin?**
  - a. Life
  - b. Death
  - c. Happiness
  
4. **What must we do to be saved?**
  - a. Repent and believe
  - b. Attend church
  - c. Be perfect
  
5. **Salvation is a result of:**
  - a. Giving my best effort
  - b. Cleaning myself up
  - c. The grace of god
  
6. **Circle which is a true statement:**
  - a. We are all robots being controlled by God's will
  - b. God gives each of us free will to either live for Him or against Him
  - c. God is always angry at the world
  
7. **How many baptisms are there?**
  - a. 1
  - b. 2
  - c. 7