Soteriology
Session 7



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Soteriology Overview

I. Definition
II. Election
III. Atonement
IV. Salvation words
V. God's one condition of salvation
VI. Results of salvation
VII. Eternal security
VIII. Faulty views of salvation

Soteriology Overview

This Session

V. God's One Condition of Salvation

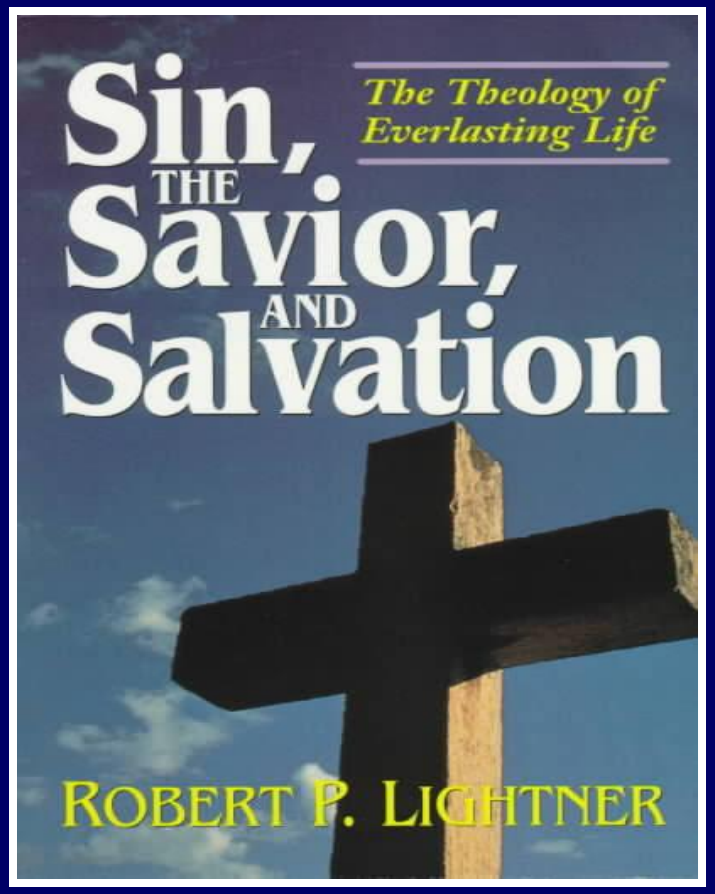
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Response to Problem Passages

- Repent (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 2 Pet 3:9)? Change of mind
- **Lordship (Matt 16:24-25)? Discipleship vs. justification**
- Receive/Accept Christ? – Synonym of faith (John 1:12)
- Believe and work (Eph 2:8-10; Jas 2:14-26)? Sanctification
- Believe and be baptized (Mark 16:15-16; John 3:5; Acts 2:38; Col 2:11-12; 1 Pet 3:21)? Context

Lordship Salvation Defined



"Lordship Salvation refers to the belief which says the sinner who wants to be saved must **not only** trust Christ as his substitute for sin, but must **also** surrender every area of his life to the complete control of Christ."



Lightner, *Sin, the Savior, and Salvation*, 202



John MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, p. 140

"Eternal life is indeed a free gift (Rom. 6:23). Salvation cannot be earned with good deeds or purchased with money. It has already been bought by Christ, who paid the ransom with His blood. **But that does not mean there is no cost** in terms of salvation's impact on the sinner's life. This paradox may be difficult but it is nevertheless true: **salvation is both free and costly**. Eternal life brings immediate death to self. 'Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin' (Rom 6:6). Thus in a sense **we pay the ultimate price for salvation** when our sinful self is nailed to a cross. It is a total abandonment of self-will, like the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies so that it can bear much fruit (cf. John 12:24). It is an exchange of all that we are for all that Christ is. And **it denotes implicit obedience, full surrender to the lordship of Christ. Nothing less can qualify as saving faith.**"

John MacArthur, *Faith Works*, p. 25



"Jesus is Lord of all, and the **faith** He demands involves **unconditional surrender**…He does not **bestow eternal life** on those whose hearts remain set against Him."

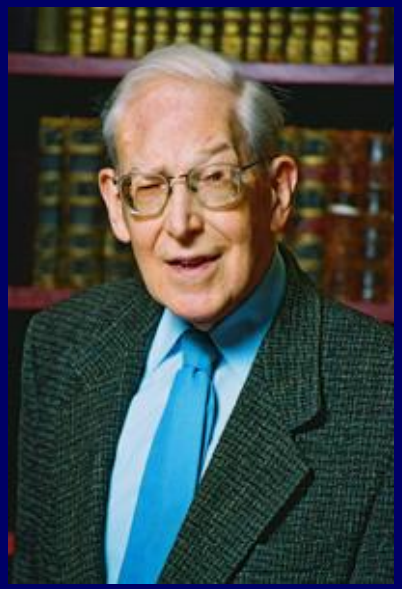


John MacArthur, *Transcription of The Art of Self-Discipline, part 2*, www.gty.org.

"Self discipline comes when you look back to the covenant of your salvation…that is to say when you remember that **at the point of your salvation you made a promise to submit to the Lord**. **You made a pledge at that time to be obedient to Christ**. You confessed Him as Lord…And Lord means that He is above all. It's essential then as believers to remember that **we made a covenant of obedience** when we confessed Jesus as Lord. We were saved unto obedience which God had before ordained that we should walk…and obedience characterized by good works…and obedience to God's Word. That pledge was inherent in salvation. God at the time you came to Him for salvation promised you forgiveness and eternal life and all the grace necessary to fulfill His will, and the Holy Spirit, and **you pledged obedience**. And you need to go back and remember that and have the integrity to be faithful to **your original promise**…"



Lordship advocates consistently declare that repentance and faith are ***two distinct and necessary requirements*** for salvation. Note for example this statement made by a prominent Reformed Theologian:



"The demand is for repentance <u>as well as</u> faith. It is not enough to believe that only through Christ and His death are sinners justified and accepted.... ***Knowledge of the gospel, and orthodox belief of it, <u>is no substitute for repentance</u>....*** Where there is ... no realistic recognition of the ***real claims that Christ makes***, there can be no repentance, and therefore no salvation." (bold mine)

J. I. Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* (Downers Grove, Ill: InterVaristy, 1961), 72-73

Lordship Salvation Defined

- Definition – If Jesus Christ is not Lord of all then He is not Lord at all
- Motive – Counter superficial conversions
- Right diagnosis but the wrong cure



According to Lordship Theology, these, "***real claims that Christ makes***" refers to a ***repentance*** which is ***a commitment to***, or at least ***a sincere willingness to***:

- ***Obey Christ's commands***
- ***Take up one's cross***
- ***Forsake sin, etc.,***

The failure of one witnessing, to declare these precursors in a gospel presentation, and a failure on the part of the sinner to willingly commit to them, means that the sinner **CAN NOT** be saved!

Lordship Salvation 7 Problems



- ✓ Changes the gospel
- ✓ Places an impossible burden upon the unsaved
- ✓ Confuses justification with sanctification
- ✓ Confuses the result of with requirement for salvation
- ✓ Fails to make basic dispensational distinctions
- ✓ Ignores the reality of a carnal Christian
- ✓ Destroys the assurance of salvation

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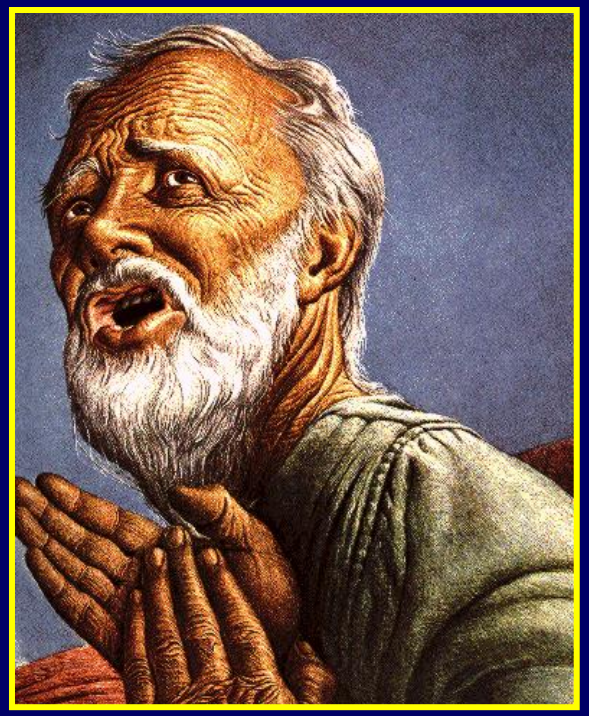
Revelation 22:17 (NASB)

"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life ***without cost***" (italics added).



Passage Conditioning Salvation on **Faith Alone** *(Sola Fide)*

- Genesis 15:6
- John 3:16; 5:24; 6:28-29, 47; 16:8-9; 20:30-31
- Acts 16:30-31
- Romans 1:16; Ephesians 2:8-9
- Hebrews 11:6



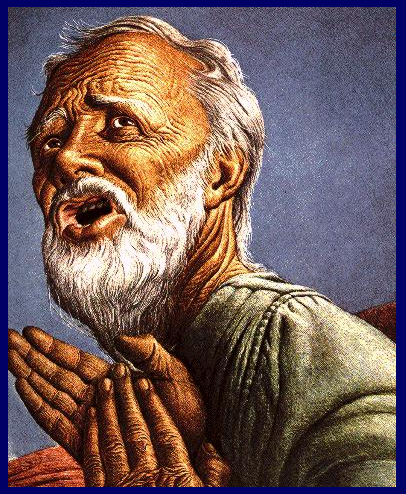
Belief – God's One Condition for Justification

Gen 15:6

Then he **believed** in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever **believes** in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



Acts 16:30-31

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "**Believe** in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."

Belief – God's One Condition for Justification



"…because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31)."

Lewis Sperry Chafer, vol. 7, *Systematic Theology*[b] (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 265-66.



Dr. Jim McGowan – Dispensationalism and the Nature of the Church:
Are Repentance and Confession "Requirements" for Salvation?

"Outside the doctrines related to the Person and work of Christ, there is no truth more far-reaching in its implications and no fact more to be defended than that salvation in all its limitless magnitude is secured, so far as human responsibility is concerned, by believing on Christ as Savior. ***To this one requirement no other obligation may be added without violence to the Scriptures and total disruption of the essential doctrine of salvation by grace alone.***

Only ignorance or reprehensible inattention to the structure of a right Soteriology will attempt to intrude some form of human works with its supposed merit into…the principle of…grace."



Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 3,
Dallas Seminary Press, Dallas, TX, 1948, p. 371.

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The question that must be laid at the feet of Lordship proponents is: ***How can one who is unregenerate, dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1,5), and blinded by the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), possibly make such a commitment?!*** On the contrary, this is an impossibility as Lewis Sperry Chafer correctly points out:

"No unregenerate mind is prepared to deal with the problems of true Christian living. These problems anticipate the new dynamic of the imparted divine nature, and could produce nothing but hopeless discouragement when really contemplated by an unregenerate person."



Salvation: God's Marvelous Work of Grace, pg. 48

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Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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Exodus 19


Mediterranean Sea
CANAAN
AMMON
MOAB
Nile Delta
Tanis
GOSHEN
Etham
Wilderness of Shur
EDOM
Kadesh barnea
SINAI Peninsula
Ezion-geber
EGYPT
Land of Midian
Arabia
SINAI
Red Sea

A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

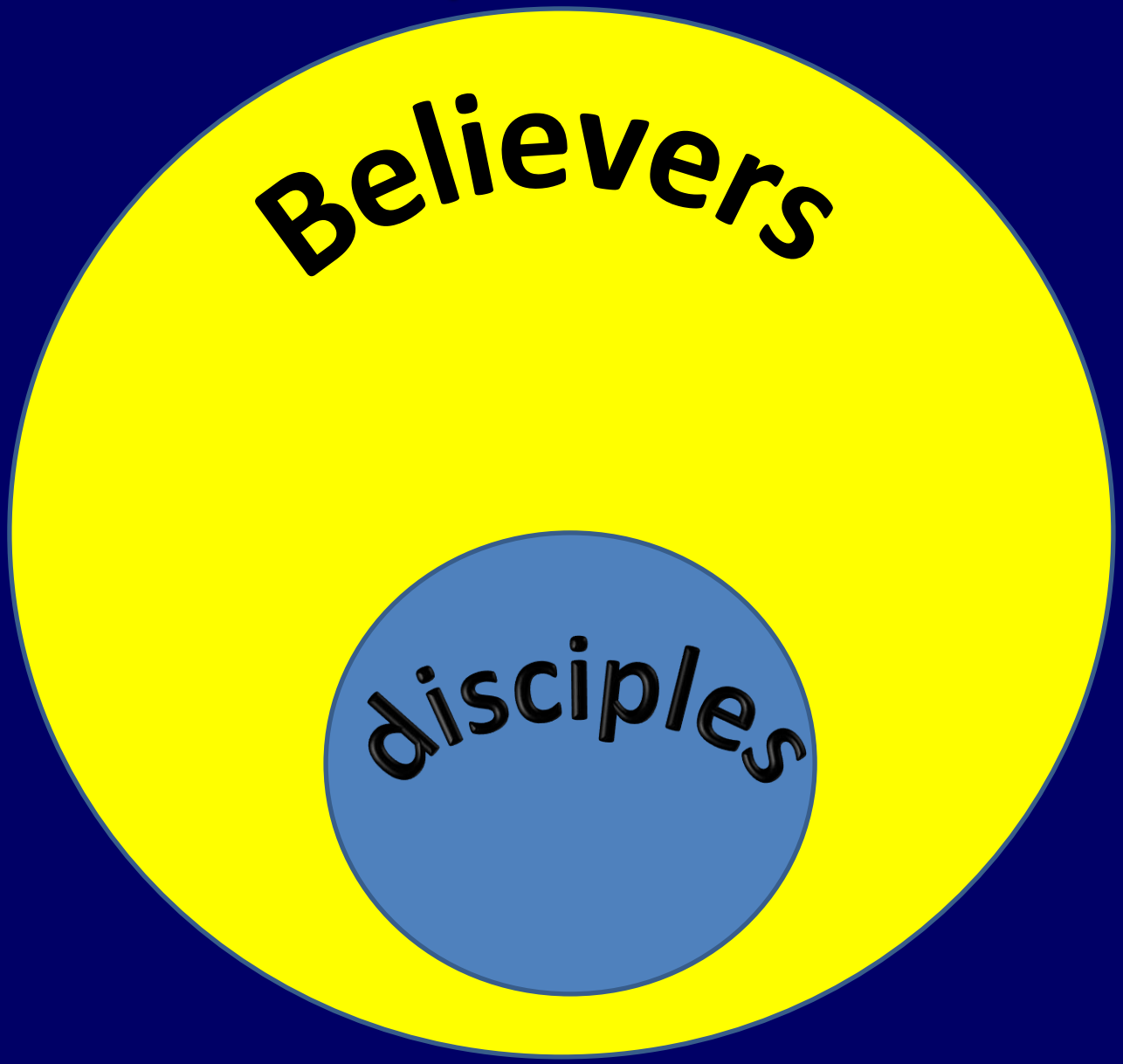
chronology |krəˈnɒlədʒi| *noun*
the arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence

Lordship Sanctification

- Rom. 6:12-13
- Rom. 12:1-2
- Eph. 6:10-20
- 1 Pet. 3:15



Lordship Sanctification



JUSTIFICATION – SALVATION	DISCIPLESHIP
FREE GIFT	COSTLY
RECEIVED THROUGH FAITH	ENTERED INTO THROUGH COMMITMENT AND OBEDIENCE THROUGH THE SPIRIT'S ENABLEMENT
NOT BY WORKS	INVOLVES OUR COOPERATION
INSTANT	LIFE-LONG PROCESS
JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION
JESUS PAID THE PRICE	BELIEVER PAYS THE PRICE
TRUSTING JESUS AS SAVIOR	FOLLOWING JESUS AS LORD
BELIEVE THE GOSPEL	OBEY THE COMMANDS
ONE CONDITION	MULTIPLE CONDITIONS
EXPERIENCED BY ALL CHRISTIANS	EXPERIENCED BY SOME CHRISTIANS
RESULTS IN ETERNAL LIFE	RESULTS IN REWARDS & AUTHORITY

Adapted from http://www.gracelife.org/resources/gracenotes.asp?id=23

Ephesians 4:1

THEREFORE…

1-3



4-6

Ephesians: What Is Inside?

1–3	4–6
Relationship	Responsibility
No imperatives	35 imperatives
Orthodoxy	Orthopraxy
Knowledge	Wisdom
Belief	Behavior
Position	Practice
Privileges	Responsibility

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Dr. Jim McGowan – Dispensationalism and the Nature of the Church:
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"There is a clear distinction between a requirement for salvation and a result of salvation. The two should not be confused with each other. A willingness and desire for Christ to rule over one's life are prompted by the new spiritual life imparted by the Holy Spirit when He regenerates the believer at salvation.

The unsaved do not and cannot submit to divine rule (Romans 8:7). Just as a tree cannot have apples unless it already has the nature of an apple tree, so a person cannot have a willingness and desire to submit to Christ's rule unless he already possesses the new nature received by regeneration at salvation (2 Pet. 1:3-4). **Thus, even the willingness and desire to submit to Christ's rule are the result of, and not a requirement for, salvation."**



Dr. Renald Showers - (Quoted in an article entitled, SAVED BY GRACE: A Clarification of the Lordship Salvation Issue, www.middletownbiblechurch.org)

CONCLUSION

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Next Session

V. More Problem Passages



Response to Problem Passages

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- **Receive/Accept Christ? – Synonym of faith (John 1:12)**
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