

**Study in Soteriology**  
**Congregational Worksheet – Wednesday, April 23, 2008**

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This worksheet was created by Assistant Pastor Phenis to help you complete and keep structured notes during the corresponding sermon. To fill in the blanks of this worksheet listen to the sermon from the date noted in the header of this worksheet. The sermon MP3 audio can be streamed or downloaded from the sermons page of the church website at <http://www.goshenfirstag.org/sermons.php> or a CD can be purchased (for \$1.00) from the church Media Ministry.

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Before we can talk about the basics of Soteriology we must first answer the question "What is Soteriology?"

**#1. Understanding what "Soteriology" is.**

Soteriology is a word we use for \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_.

We get our word Soteriology from the Greek word \_\_\_\_\_ and the suffix \_\_\_\_\_.

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Soteria has a variety of synonyms that declare it's meaning. It means \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, recovery, escape, or most commonly salvation.

We add the suffix ology to a word when we are talking about the study of that word such as sociology which is the study of society or psychology which is the study of behavior or thinking.

So Soteriology is the study of \_\_\_\_\_ as it relates to the \_\_\_\_\_ or rescue of man from the clutches of \_\_\_\_\_.

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Soteria is found **44** times in the New Testament.

Soteria is used...

- 40 times as salvation
- 2 times as saved Luk\_1:71, Rom\_10:1
- 1 time as \_\_\_\_\_ Act\_27:34

**Act 27:34** Wherefore I pray you to take *some* meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not \_\_\_\_\_ an hair fall from the head of any of you.

- 1 time as \_\_\_\_\_ Heb\_11:7

**Heb 11:7** By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, \_\_\_\_\_ prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became \_\_\_\_\_ heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

However, as you can see the most common use of Soteria is salvation.

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**#2. Understanding what salvation is all about.**

Salvation is all about the work that Christ did on the cross to \_\_\_\_\_ us from, as the Scripture puts it, "from the curse of the law."

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*Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:*

The words redemption, redeemed, or redeem means to release on receipt of ransom, exchange, convert or \_\_\_\_\_.

So again, Salvation is all about the work that Christ did on the cross to buy us back from sin or "the curse of the law."

Let's look at Galatians 3:13 again, *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:*

What is meant by "the curse of the law?"

**curse of the law** - The curse which the Law threatens, and which the execution of the Law would inflict; the punishment due to sin.

This must mean, that he has rescued us from the consequences of transgression in the world of woe; he has saved us from the punishment which our sins have deserved. The word, "us" here, must refer to all who are redeemed; that is, to the Gentiles as well as the Jews. The curse of the Law is a curse which is due to sin, and cannot be regarded as applied particularly to any one class of people.

All who violate the Law of God, however that law may be made known, are exposed to its penalty. The word "law" here, relates to the Law of God in general, to all the laws of God made known to man. The Law of God denounced death as the wages of sin. It threatened punishment in the future world forever. That would certainly have been inflicted, but for the coming and death of Christ. The world is lying by nature under this curse, and it is sweeping the race on to ruin. (Albert Barnes)

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We understand then that the law states that if any man sins he must then pay the \_\_\_\_\_ for sin.

*Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

What then is the penalty for sin? \_\_\_\_\_

Death is then the \_\_\_\_\_ of the law.

What is sin?

*1John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of*

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*the law.*

We see then that sin is the Transgression, \_\_\_\_\_, or breaking of the law.

We see then that Christ did what He did so that He could offer us salvation  
(\_\_\_\_\_) from the curse of the law which is death.

We have just briefly touched on what salvation is all about by quickly looking at sin and it's consequences. However, to fully understand why salvation is needed we need to look closer at Anthropology or the study of man and the fall of man. We will try to do that at a later date in greater detail.

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**#3. Understanding how we obtain salvation.**

This chart will show us in a nutshell or very briefly what God's plan to bring us salvation entailed and how it works.

1	Man after the fall	Poverty
2	Salvation Provided	Rich mans offer
3	The way of salvation	Conditions met
4	Glorious results or Doctrines of salvation	Wealthy

In order to explain this chart lets look at God's plan of salvation like this.

1. Let's say that we have 50 people in this congregation and we are all in a state of deep poverty. This is point 1 of the chart. Man after the fall found himself \_\_\_\_\_, bent towards sin and in a \_\_\_\_\_ condition.

Before we can ever accept salvation we must first realize that we have \_\_\_\_\_ or transgressed God's laws and stand \_\_\_\_\_ to death for those transgressions that are commonly referred to as \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Now let's say that a very wealthy Millionaire came into this congregation and offered \$100,000 to each one of us. This would be point 2 of the outline or in other words \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation.

3. However, this rich man has some simple rules or \_\_\_\_\_ that we must meet or follow before we can receive the gift he is offering. This would be point 3 of the outline under conditions met or the way of salvation.

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Let's take a look at how these "conditions" are met.

The "how" to obtaining salvation is found in the meeting of these conditions.

**Condition #1**

A. \_\_\_\_\_ is Essential. What's involved?

Repentance is the first condition that is required on mans part to receive salvation.

W. H. Kesler, in his book "So Great Salvation", said that repentance is a largely ignored word in the church world today and he is right..

His book was written in 1976 and we can see in fact it is no different today than it was then except that repentance has become, in many circles, all but non existent.

Repentance however, is a very widely used word in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
**Testament.**

Ezekiel 14:6 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent, and turn *yourselves* from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.

Some of God's choicest men preached and practiced it as necessary to withstand the wrath of God.

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ after he had committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband murdered in battle repented of what he had done.

Psalm 51:2-3 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.  
3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin *is* ever before me.

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ taught repentance when he was paving the way for the coming of Christ and His 3 1/2 years of earthly ministry.

Matthew 3:1-2 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,  
2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

⇒ Peter spoke of repentance on the Day of \_\_\_\_\_.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

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We know that repentance is in the Word of God and pertains to salvation but what does it mean?

In order to accurately define repentance we must look at the three aspects of repentance.

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1. Repentance concerns the intellect or \_\_\_\_\_.

The meaning of the word repentance in this context means to \_\_\_\_\_ one's mind.

Matthew 21:28-29 But what think ye? A *certain* man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.

A change of mind is also illustrated in the parable of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Luke 15:11-19) He had a complete change of mind as home began to look pretty good to him instead of eating with the pigs.

On the Day of Pentecost when the multitudes asked what they must do Peter told them to repent or change their minds about what they thought about \_\_\_\_\_ and other \_\_\_\_\_ matters.

2. Repentance concerns the \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10 illustrates the meaning if the Greek word used here.

9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were \_\_\_\_\_ made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. 10 For godly \_\_\_\_\_ sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world \_\_\_\_\_ worketh death.

The thought on this is to cause great \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. True repentance should bring us to the point of being weighed down with \_\_\_\_\_, or to sigh, or moan in grief of our sin.

This can be illustrated with the Publican in Luke 18:9-14 who when he prayed wouldn't even lift his eyes toward Heaven but beat on his chest and said, "...God be merciful to me a sinner."

The level of emotion however, will be different in each individual person. Some will be tearless while others may be reduced to uncontrollable weeping.

All cases of true repentance will involve real sorrow and \_\_\_\_\_ for sin.

3. Lastly true repentance involves the \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important part of true repentance. If true repentance is going to be effective it must not only go through the mind and emotions but must take hold of the will to bring forth the action that involves change.

Many people have been sorry for their sin to the point of knowing they did wrong and even wept bitterly over what they did but had no change of heart or actions which is a direct result of the

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power of the will.

When Paul speaks in 2 Corinthians 7:10 that godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. He is speaking of the difference between the mind , emotions, and the will.

Worldly sorrow affects the mind and the emotions only, but godly sorrow affects \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

Worldly sorrow says I'm sorry I got caught, and I feel bad about it, but godly sorrow says I'm sorry I got caught, I feel bad about it and I'm not going to do it again.

This is why worldly sorrow works death because it is not true repentance if the will is not affected.

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### B. Repentance is essential: What is it?

When the Word of God has convicted us of sin and true repentance is embraced three steps will be taken.

When the mind, emotions, and will are fully affected then they will be met with....

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of sin
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of sin
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to God

Remember God cannot do anything with \_\_\_\_\_ sin. It remains the sinners property and will bring him to judgment.

↳ \_\_\_\_\_ sin however, becomes God's property. What does He do with our sins when they are confessed in true repentance?

*Micah 7:18-19 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. 19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*

This is all part of the Salvation process. It seems like alot when you go through it in this fashion but in the heart when the Holy Ghost is convicting a person of sin it only takes a few moments for it to be accomplished.

↳ Repentance also implies \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

Pro 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

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Forsaking sins simply means to \_\_\_\_\_ them behind, to \_\_\_\_\_ with them, or to \_\_\_\_\_ any ties that you have with them.

This does not include just certain sins or types of sins but \_\_\_\_\_ sin is to be forsaken.

↳ Genuine repentance implies \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

This is what the Lord told Paul He had in store for him when he was converted on the road to Damascus.

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan \_\_\_\_\_ unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

1Thessalonians 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

So if salvation is to be acquired then the condition of repentance must be met which involves  
Confession of sin  
Forsaking of sin, and a Turning to God

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## **Condition #2**

**A. Faith & conviction is the vehicle that will carry us to repentance if we have allowed faith to take hold on our heart.**

Applying faith to salvation simply means believing what God has said, not only before but after salvation.

"If an unsaved man will believe what God says about sin, hell, heaven, and salvation he will be brought into a saving knowledge of God." (W. H. Kesler)

There are four words that accompany saving faith as found in W. H. Keslers book "So Great Salvation."

1. Faith must rest upon \_\_\_\_\_ and those facts are found in the Word of God.
2. Faith must rest upon \_\_\_\_\_ or agreement. In other words knowing the facts is not enough but we must agree with them.
3. Faith must rest upon \_\_\_\_\_. In other words once we have seen the facts and agreed with the facts we must now commit ourselves to the facts.
4. Faith must rest upon \_\_\_\_\_. Once we have believed the facts and agreed

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with them and applied them to our lives we can then rest assured that God will do His part.

**#4 Understanding what happens to us when we get saved according to the Scriptural method.**

Once the conditions are met then point 4 becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ and salvation has come to your house. You are now free from poverty and are considered wealthy.

There are some interesting things that take place in our lives if we have truly repented of our sins, and they are as follows...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ takes place in us when we commit our lives to Christ or get saved.

The dictionary states that generate means "to bring into \_\_\_\_\_." We have been brought into existence by our natural birth.

The Bible tells us however, that we were born in \_\_\_\_\_ or after his seed.

**1Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

Since we have been born into Adams seed Jesus tells us that we must be \_\_\_\_\_ again or saved. **John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**

We must be re-generated. In other words we were generated in Adams seed but we must be born in Christ by re-generation.

We become a new creature or creation. **2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

In a sense then re-generation is exchanging the old for the new. Our old life of sin in Adam is traded in for our new life of righteousness in Christ.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ takes place in us when we commit our lives to Christ.

It is said that justified could indicate just - as - if - I'd never sinned.

Regeneration shows our change in \_\_\_\_\_ and justification shows our change in \_\_\_\_\_.

We used to be condemned but now we are justified.

We must understand that justification is not forgiveness or pardon but a complete \_\_\_\_\_ of the sin of the offender.

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In a court of law only an innocent man can be declared justified. If he is guilty he may be forgiven or pardoned but not justified.

God's court works differently. Only God has the power to declare a guilty man justified because He so far removes our sins from us that they are no longer there. We are not guilty but forgiven but we are guilty then justified.

**Romans 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.**

Let's look at it like this. When a man is pardoned or forgiven in a court of law he is free to go but the fact remains he was guilty and still is. His pardon or forgiveness did not remove his guilt nor did it take it away but simply forgave it or let it go.

When a man is justified by God he is no longer guilty. He is forgiven by God yes, but he is also justified. The guilt of sin is gone. The penalty for sin is gone. The man stands in justification (not guilty but forgiven), but righteous and free just as if the sin was never committed.

God doesn't just put an "X" through our sins but he takes them completely away. **Micah 7:19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.**

3. \_\_\_\_\_ takes place when we commit our lives to Christ.

We learned that in regeneration we get a change in nature and in justification we get a change in standing, but in adoption we get a change of \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ takes place when we commit or lives to Christ.

Sanctification is the final installment on our road to wealth in the Father. We see that regeneration changes our nature, justification changes our standing, adoption changes our position, and sanctification Changes our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**★ There are 2 types of sanctification.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ which occurs when we are regenerated or born again.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ which occurs throughout the rest of our walk with Christ on earth.

The first act of sanctification which is instantaneous incorporates the pure and immediate cleansing of the blood of Christ. You are totally washed and cleaned and freed from any stain of sin at the moment of salvation. It happens in an instant.

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Romans 6:6-7 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

W. H. Kesler said it like this. "the sin factory put out of commission." **PRAISE THE LORD!!!**

However, sanctification is not through at the moment of salvation.

1Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace **sanctify you wholly**; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

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2Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

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Romans 6:13 & 16 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

We see then by these verses that sanctification is not only instantaneous but progressive and has much to do with our \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_ willingly to God..

How is this done?

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Through our \_\_\_\_\_.