

# Doctrine of Salvation: *Soteriology*

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# Ephesians 2

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—  
<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



Walter Scott (1796-1861)

# Five Finger Exercise

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1. Believe (*faith*)
2. Repent
3. Confess
4. Be Baptized
5. Holy Spirit / Christian Life

*Note: there are other variations of the 5-finger exercise that are slightly different.*



# Plan of Salvation

	Faith				Christian Life
Scripture	Believe	Repent	Confess	Baptism	Holy Spirit
<b><u>GOSPELS</u></b>					
Mark 16:15,16					He that believes and is baptized shall be saved...
John 3:3-5					Must be born of water & spirit to enter kingdom of God
Matthew 10:32					Whoever shall confess me before men, I will confess before my father
Luke 13:3					Unless you repent, you will perish
Luke 15:7					Lost sheep: Joy in heaven over one repentant sinner
Matthew 28:19,20					Great Commission: go, teach, baptize
<b><u>ACTS</u></b>					
Acts 2:21					Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Joel 2:32). Matthew 7:21
Acts 2:37-41					Day of Pentecost - Repent and be baptized
Acts 8:12					Conversion of Samaritans
Acts 8:36-38					Conversion of Ethiopian Eunuch
Acts 10:43, 48					Conversion of Cornelius
Acts 16:13-15					Conversion of Lydia
Acts 16:29-34					Conversion of Phillippian jailer. Believe..and you will be saved. They were baptized.
Acts 17:30					God commands all people to repent
Acts 18:7-8					Conversion of Corinthians
Acts 19:1-5					Baptism of John the Baptists disciples
Acts 22:16, 9:18					Conversion of Saul - Be baptized, and wash away your sins..
<b><u>LETTERS</u></b>					
Romans 4:1-5					Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness
Romans 6:1-5					..we who were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death
Romans 10:9,10					Confess..and believe..you will be saved
Galatians 3:27					For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
I Timothy 6:12					Eternal life..good confession
Hebrews 6:4-6					Warning against falling away
Hebrews 10:26,27					If we deliberately continue sinning..judgment
Hebrews 11:6					Without faith, it is impossible to please God
James 2:17-19					Faith without works is dead
I Peter 3:21					Baptism saves you...
II Peter 2:20-22					Its better to never have been saved, than to turn back on Christ
I John 1:9					If we confess our sins... he will forgive...
I John 4:15					Whoever shall confess..God dwells in him
Revelation 2:10					Be faithful...
Revelation 21:6,7					To him who overcomes...

Based on scripture, how do the following doctrines stand up: sinner's prayer saves you, baptism is optional, infant baptism is valid, once saved always saved?



Mark 16:15,16: Jesus to apostles

**15** He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. **16** Whoever **believes** and is **baptized** will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

## John 3:3-5: Jesus to Nicodemus

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

<sup>4</sup> “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

Matthew 10:32: Jesus to apostles

<sup>32</sup> So everyone who acknowledges (confesses), me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Luke 13:3: Jesus to crowd

But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Luke 15:7: Jesus – Parable of lost sheep

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.





Matthew 28:19,20: Jesus to apostles  
(*Great Commission*)

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

# Acts 2: Peter on day of Pentecost

<sup>21</sup> And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved  
(also Joel 2:28-32).

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.



# Acts 8: Conversion of Samaritans and Ethiopian

<sup>12</sup> But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

<sup>36</sup> As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” <sup>37</sup> Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” The eunuch answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

## Acts 10: Peter and Cornelius

<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup> “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” <sup>48</sup> So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

## Acts 16: Paul and Lydia

<sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. <sup>15</sup> When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

## Acts 16: Paul and Philippian jailer

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He then 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—you and your household.” <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup> At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. <sup>34</sup> The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

## Acts 17:30: Paul to Athenians

**30** In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

## Acts 18: Paul and Corinthians

<sup>7</sup> Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. <sup>8</sup> Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.



## Acts 19: Paul and John's disciples

<sup>4</sup> Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” <sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

## Acts 22: Conversion of Saul/Paul

<sup>14</sup> “Then he said: ‘The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. <sup>15</sup> You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.’

## Romans 4:1-5

**4** What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? **2** If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. **3** What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”  
**4** Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. **5** However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

## Romans 6

**6** What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup> Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.



## Romans 10

<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

## Galatians 3

**27** for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

# 1 Timothy 6

**12** Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

## Hebrews 6

<sup>4</sup> It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age <sup>6</sup> and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.



## Hebrews 10

<sup>26</sup> If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, <sup>27</sup> but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

## Hebrews 11

<sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

## James 2

<sup>17</sup> In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. <sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

## 1 Peter 3

<sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

## 2 Peter 2

<sup>20</sup> If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. <sup>21</sup> It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. <sup>22</sup> Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”

1 John 1

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.



## 1 John 4

**15** If anyone acknowledges (confesses) that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God.

# Revelation 2

<sup>10</sup> Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

# Revelation 21

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.





# Plan of Salvation

	Faith	Repent	Confess	Baptism	Christian Life	
Scripture	Believe				Holy Spirit	
<b>GOSPELS</b>						
Mark 16:15,16	X			X		He that believes and is baptized shall be saved...
John 3:3-5				X		Must be born of water & spirit to enter kingdom of God
Matthew 10:32			X			Whoever shall confess me before men, I will confess before my father
Luke 13:3		X				Unless you repent, you will perish
Luke 15:7		X				Lost sheep: Joy in heaven over one repentant sinner
Matthew 28:19,20				X	X	Great Commission: go, teach, baptize
<b>ACTS</b>						
Acts 2:21	X					Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Joel 2:32). Matthew 7:21
Acts 2:37-41		X		X	X	Day of Pentecost - Repent and be baptized
Acts 8:12	X			X		Conversion of Samaritans
Acts 8:36-38				X		Conversion of Ethiopian Eunuch
Acts 10:43, 48	X			X		Conversion of Cornelius
Acts 16:13-15	X			X		Conversion of Lydia
Acts 16:29-34	X			X		Conversion of Phillippian jailer. Believe..and you will be saved. They were baptized.
Acts 17:30		X				God commands all people to repent
Acts 18:7-8	X			X		Conversion of Corinthians
Acts 19:1-5	X			X		Baptism of John the Baptists disciples
Acts 22:16, 9:18				X		Conversion of Saul - Be baptized, and wash away your sins...
<b>LETTERS</b>						
Romans 4:1-5	X					Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness
Romans 6:1-5				X		...we who were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death
Romans 10:9,10	X		X			Confess..and believe..you will be saved
Galatians 3:27				X		For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
I Timothy 6:12			X			Eternal life...good confession
Hebrews 6:4-6					X	Warning against falling away
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I John 1:9			X			If we confess our sins... he will forgive...
I John 4:15			X			Whoever shall confess...God dwells in him
Revelation 2:10					X	Be faithful...
Revelation 21:6,7					X	To him who overcomes...

Based on scripture, how do the following doctrines stand up: sinner's prayer saves you, baptism is optional, infant baptism is valid, once saved always saved?

# Topics regarding what we believe

## Future topics

- Baptism (method, purpose, subjects)
- Communion
- Church leadership

## Potential future topics

- Biblical infallibility
- The tension between faith and works
- Calvinism (predestination) vs Arminianism (free will)
- Eschatology (end times, rapture)
- Trinity and the nature of God

# QUESTIONS?

*Next week:*

*Baptism*

# The Grace & Work Tension



Are we justified by....

**FAITH** *or* **WORKS**

# Galatians 2

<sup>15</sup> “We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles <sup>16</sup> know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.



# Romans 3

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

# John 6

<sup>28</sup> Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

# James 2 – Faith and Works

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? <sup>15</sup> Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup> If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup> In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. <sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

<sup>20</sup> You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? <sup>21</sup> Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. <sup>23</sup> And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

<sup>25</sup> In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? <sup>26</sup> As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.



# The Sheep and Goats

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

<sup>45</sup> “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

<sup>46</sup> “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

