

# ARE YOU TRULY SAVED?

*By Pastor Del Wray*

Are you truly saved? Details of this question include: How did you get saved? When did you get saved? This means providing an approximate time and experience of the event! How does your salvation experience compare with Bible salvation? Are there any elements missing? Are there any elements added? What was your understanding of God at the time? Did you know that you were heading for Hell? Did you know that if you had died a moment before, you would have gone to Hell? Did you know that you had NEVER been with God, had never been His child before? If you were religious before this, did you know that your religion was vain, a work of man and or Satan? Did you know that you had never served God prior to this, that your prayers had not reached Him because of the gulf of sin that was between you and God, that you did not have access to God, that you did not have peace with God, that you were condemned, that you were filthy in His sight, that His wrath was upon you, that you really were NOT a true believer before this? I know that was a lot of questions, but they are ESSENTIAL to understanding your spiritual state at the time of your salvation experience. Why? Because Satan will do everything in his power to keep you from genuine salvation! He will try to distract you from the things mentioned above by diverting your attention to subtle and distinctly less important matters. For example, he might have you come to God to try to heal your past, to try to fix your situation, heal your marriage, fix your life, clean up your act, or get you out of some trouble, pain, or difficulty that you are facing.

NONE OF THESE THINGS WILL BRING YOU TO SALVATION HOWEVER, not by themselves anyway. You must come as a lost, condemned, hell bound, and hell-deserving sinner who is literally fleeing the wrath to come, the wrath that is coming to the entire lost world, which includes you (prior to genuine salvation). You must also understand that Jesus came to save sinners from their sin. This means that if you turned to Jesus for salvation, you understood that and wanted to be saved from your sin, you turned from your rebellion and sin by God's grace. There is Bible verses that relate to every single question that I asked in this section on Victory Bible Baptist Church's web site <http://biblerays.com> there you will find several web pages that relate to being truly saved. On these pages there are many verses that relate to salvation. If you do not find every verse that relates, you can always read of them on either of the sub pages under our "home page" on our church site! Those were questions on your salvation-experience pertaining to biblical repentance.

Now we will consider the salvation-experience questions that pertain to faith: When you experienced salvation, did you come to God as a lost sinner who knew the things described above AND who knew that God would only accept you, your person, your prayer and your repentance based on your faith in the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary? Was Jesus' sacrificial work on the cross the payment for your sin debt alone? How about, is the cleansing of your sinful soul, the freedom from your bondage to sin and from Satan, the provision of eternal life for you, the vehicle through which you receive mercy from God, the only means by which you can come to God, and the only source of your peace with God, the focus of your experience? When I say experience, it's really just repentance and faith and nothing

more. You should NOT have added anything to this. Your faith in Jesus' sacrifice for you MUST be the only faith, which is true saving faith, that's laid out in the Bible. You cannot add anything to it. If you think that there is some other means through which God can grant you those things salvation, mercy, help, freedom, then you ARE NOT placing your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and Him ONLY! Only through Jesus Christ does one receive all of those things from Him. You see, Jesus sacrifice on the cross is very powerful. The reason that people do not know this is because their focus has always been elsewhere; they are looking for grace outside of the cross, and they, therefore, never receive of its benefits. The cross is EVERYTHING for you, if you are, indeed, a Christian, and it became everything to you the day, the moment, the instant that you got saved because you finally came TO THE CROSS! You see, you had never been there before because you had never relied on the cross of Christ alone to save you before. You had relied on other means of grace, which were not means of grace at all, but tools of further deception. Please look back with honesty. Please, for your own sake, ask yourself whether or not that Calvary was at the very center of your salvation experience and the ONLY means of grace you trusted in. I will reiterate it here because this is very important: If you are asking Him to do any of these things (salvation, grace, mercy, forgiveness, freedom) for you now, then you are not putting your faith in the fact that He has ALREADY done all of these things for you through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. The work that Jesus did on the cross to save sinners is complete! Nothing more needs to be done and that work is applied to our souls, when we by faith ask for it, and trust in that work alone! Oh, please hear this! Please understand this! Also, please be certain that in your experience of salvation you were trusting Christ's sacrifice to give you the gift of eternal life that you knew at that moment that you HAD eternal life and that nothing could take it from you, no sin, no error, no temptation, nothing. You must believe that Christ's sacrifice for salvation was sufficient to please a holy God or you are not really trusting in His sacrifice at all. Remember God accepts no one on their own terms, it has to be on God's terms alone! And God's terms are laid out in Scripture. Romans 12:1-2 clearly indicates that salvation has to be acceptable by God and God reveals in His Word that that which is acceptable is Jesus Christ sacrifice on Calvary alone! "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." That's believing faith! Repentance and faith are both gifts from God given to "whosoever will" trust Jesus Christ as Saviour given the very moment you ask, truly to be saved! Don't forget that! Did you hear what I said? Don't forget it! Don't listen to other people; don't listen to your own feelings they change or whatever may come into your mind! Your conscience will deceive you! Believe God!

I have this friend who was told by his Church of God pastor that he would walk again if he got saved. You see he was in an auto accident when he was seventeen and left paralyzed from the waist down, unable to walk. He told me that he had lived the last several years knowing that he was going to Hell when he died because he could not walk. I set down with that 25 year old man who was bound by a wheel chair and showed him out of God's Word, what God had to say about it. Then I ask him, are you going to believe God or that Church of God preacher? He set there for a moment and I could see his face turning red and he said, "God of course!" He ask God to save him, right there in his wheelchair. He did not have to do anything but trust God! His face began to shine and lit up like a light bulb with a large smile and with both of his hands he hit the arms of that wheelchair so hard that it elevated him a foot out of that chair! He yelled, "I feel like a million dollars." I know I don't have to say it but CR became a real vital part of God's work. Closing let me say the last 50 years of my life have been lived out of a heart of gratitude and

thankfulness for God's saving power in my own life! He did it all! And I've lived completely entranced by what He did for me, since then! How about you? Are you enslaved by self efforts that never satisfy? Desist, stop, quit, cease, abstain, and give up and throw yourself at the mercy of God and totally trust Him alone! **RIGHT NOW TRUST HIM!**