

The Need of Salvation

Most everyone will readily agree that man has a need of salvation. However a great number of people cannot give a biblical reason. In the Bible the reason is shown, and thus is revealed the greatest love that man has ever known. Let us now examine the scriptures and learn the purpose which God had in mind when He extended to man the plan of salvation.

1. **How did God create man?** Genesis 1:26 F.P.

When man was created, he was made in the image of God and after his likeness. If we were created in the image of God, then God must have an image. Isaiah tells us He has hands and ears. (Isa. 59:1) Exodus 33:21-23 speaks about the back parts. So God must then have an image.

But in what way was Adam made in the likeness of God? Just as God was pure and sinless, so was Adam. Adam was pure, and he was sinless; he was created in the likeness of God.

2. **How long did Adam enjoy this likeness of God?** Genesis 3:1-11

We do not know the exact length of time, but it was a short period. Then the devil came along and told Eve to go ahead and eat of the tree. She refused at first, but the devil told her, if she ate, she would know good and evil. Adam and Eve knew what good was, but they did not know what evil was, so they ate. Sin entered their lives and they were no longer in the likeness of God.

3. **What happened to man?** Romans 5:12

Death now was pronounced upon the human race. Unless something was done, man was doomed to die.

4. **What did Jesus come to do?** Matthew 1:21

Notice the words, "...For he shall save his people from their sins." Some feel that after accepting Christ as their Savior, they are still sinners, but this is not so. When we accept Christ as our Savior and He forgives our sins, we are no longer sinners for "he has saved us **from** our sins." God then refers to us as saints (Rom. 1:7).

5. **What did God do to man?** 1 Peter 1:18-19

When God created Adam, he belonged to God; he was God's possession. When sin entered the life of Adam, he no longer belonged to God, but to the devil. God then had to *redeem* him. What does the word *redeem* mean? It means "to buy back; to repossess." God bought man back through the death of His Son. This is why man needs salvation. He does not belong to God; he is lost, and through salvation (Christ) he can become the possession of God once again. Read 1 John 3:1-2 F.P.

6. **What are we to do?** Proverbs 23:26

When we give our heart to God means surrendering our life over to the will of God. When we accept Christ (Salvation), we then belong to God; we are not our own. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

7. **What is it a man cannot do?** Jeremiah 13:23

As the leopard cannot change his spots, neither can man change his life without the help of God.

8. **To whom does Paul give credit?** 1 Corinthians 15:10

9. **How are we saved?** Ephesians 2:8

10. **When is the time for salvation?** 2 Corinthians 6:2

Man should never put off accepting the salvation of God. Please bear in mind that when you play with your soul, you are playing for keeps.

11. What statement does Paul make in Hebrews 2:1-3?

Paul is telling us to give heed to those things we know we ought to do, lest time goes by and we soon forget them.

12. What could be the tragic end? Jeremiah 8:20

Christ is coming soon to harvest God's people into the kingdom of God. It would please God if we could be a part of that great spiritual harvest.

SUMMARY

Man was first created sinless. He fell away from that purity and sold himself into sin. God then had to redeem (buy) him back unto himself—thus, the need of Salvation.