# What Does Saved Really Mean?

## Swimming or Sinking



Matthew 7:23, 24 Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord...v.24 I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; Depart from me, you who practice lawlessness.

"What Does Saved Really Mean; Swimming or Sinking" Published by The G2G Foundation

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All verses cited taken from the King James and New American Standard Version of the Holy Bible.

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Have you heard the term "saved" or has someone asked you "are you saved?" Do you really understand this term or the meaning of the phrase? Unfortunately, many do not understand this term or this term is misrepresented. This booklet assists you in properly defining what saved is.

The word saved means to rescue or preserve from harm, danger, or injury (Webster Fourth Edition 1999). Here is an illustration to help bring the term into perspective. You walk down the street and you see a man holding his heart gasping for air. Seconds later, he falls to the ground. You rush over to check his pulse and notice he is not breathing. You spring into action by doing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Moments later the man coughs and begins breathing again. You saved this man's life because you knew what to do and you responded. You would think this man would show you some gratitude for saving his life.

This in essence is what saved means with respect to your soul. When someone asks you, "Are you saved?" they are literally asking have you been saved from the wrath to come when someone doesn't accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Let's revisit the beginning with respect to the term "saved" and why it is important to get a thorough understanding regarding this concept.

## Day 2

## Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" (Gen.3:13).

We must understand the scenario that put man in need of a Savior and in need of rescue. Genesis is the first book of the Holy Bible. Genesis records how God created the heavens, earth, and all the creatures living in them. God created Adam and his Wife and allowed them to live in the Garden of Eden. Adam's purpose was to exercise his God-given right to rule on the earth through obedience and interaction with God. Adam failed to complete his task when he rebelled against God's word. Adam and his Wife ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen.3:22). Once Adam and his Wife rebelled against God's word, they could no longer live in the Garden of Eden with God.

God banished them from the Garden of Eden, but arranged a system that allowed them to interact with him. When Adam and his Wife defied God's word, they literally aligned themselves with the serpent (also known as the Devil or Satan Rev.12:9). When this happened, it changed the dynamics of man's dominance in the world.

# but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." (Gen.2:17).

Genesis 1 describes how God created the heavens and earth by speaking them into existence. Therefore God's word is

### Day 3

the governing authority in this world He created. Before God placed Adam in Eden, He told him not to eat from the tree. God explained, Adam would die if he ate from the tree.

Adam didn't die immediately after eating from the tree. He died eventually absent from God's presence. God allowed Adam and his family to leave with their lives, but there still was a problem. God's word was not fulfilled because mankind didn't die an immediate death or suffer punishment for the rebellion in the garden. The world revolves around God's word and He must hold man accountable for disobeying him. Mankind must die to answer for the rebellion in Eden, but this poses another problem. God didn't create men to die.

God created man in His image; meaning everything God could do, man had the ability to do on earth. The vision God had for man was to look on earth and see him ruling in the same capacity as God was ruling in heaven. In essence, when God looked on earth He wanted to be looking in a mirror, this is why the Bible says we are made in His image (Gen.1:26, 27). When Adam and his Wife rebelled from God uniting with Satan, God no longer saw the same thing when he looked in the mirror at Man. He looked in a broken glass because Man was no longer in the His image. Notice when Adam ate from the tree he became fearful. He ran from God, blamed his wife, and lost his way. Since God created man to live forever and Adam is literally God's son (Luke 3:38),

## Day 4

God could not allow His children (mankind) to be separated from Him forever by death. God could not exterminate mankind because by doing so, God would be removing Himself because His spirit lived in Man. God arranged a system to reconcile man back to Himself. He arranged a payment for man's rebellion in the Garden of Eden. God fulfilled both of these requirements by sending His son Jesus Christ!

Adam's rebellion against God's word literally sold mankind into slavery of sin. Ownership of the earth was in a sense deeded over to Satan. In order for God to reclaim man's soul, He had to send a proper payment. That payment had to be an innocent man willing to die and take the punishment due for Adam (the guilty). That person had to be fully God and fully man. What does this mean?

# The Lord said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth;" (Genesis 8:21).

God created Adam by breathing His spirit into man resulting into man becoming a living being (Gen.2:7). When Adam sinned against God he had sin in his DNA. So all of his offspring was genetically flawed or contaminated by the sin gene. Therefore God had to create a man in the same image he created Adam. This man had to be of pure genetics and fully human. This was satisfied by God breathing into the womb of a virgin woman

### Day 5

named Mary; which resulted in the conception of Christ. Jesus Christ was fully human because a woman birthed him. He also was complete deity and conceived by God's spirit.

'He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God aides on him (John 3:36)

Now here is the importance of understanding salvation! Since Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world, He rectified the debt required to buy back man's freedom (an innocent life willing to die in place of the guilty). Man is brought back into good standing with God (John 3:16). Now those who accept God's gift, which is Jesus Christ as their Savior, have the opportunity to be sons of God. They can have the same authority and power Adam had when he worked with God in the Garden of Eden.

Many people do not understand the concept of being saved. As we defined earlier, the term means to rescue or preserve from harm, danger, or injury. According to John 3:36 whoever does not believe in the Son has the wrath of God resting on their life. Revelation 14:9-11 deals with the punishment of those who reject Christ. They will be tormented with fire and brimstone. Instead of focusing on God's wrath, let us highlight His love.

It took a tremendous act of love for God to send His son, and for Jesus Christ to die for your sins and mine (John 3:16,)

## Day 6

14:31, 17:26). The relationship God wants you to have with Him through His son Jesus Christ is one based on love. God loved you so much He sent His son as a payment to buy back your freedom. Christ loved God His Father and you so much, He was willing to die and undergo suffering for a crime He did not commit. This was done to buy back your freedom from death and sin. Here is one important condition that one can use to know whether they have committed themselves to the Lord.

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word will keep My word... v:24 He who does not love Me does not keep my words. (John 14:23, 24)

Christ defined those that love Him. Anyone keeping His words and His teachings love Him. The only way to know if you are keeping Christ's words is by reading and studying His word in the Holy Bible. Are you living your life modeled like Christ? Does your life openly demonstrate appreciation for an innocent man taking the blame and punishment for a crime He didn't commit?



Let's look at it this way. What if you committed a crime and your brother who you do not acknowledge as family steps in and says "I'm guilty of the crime, my brother is innocent." Your brother goes to jail for a life sentence. When he gets out and finds you, you show him no

### Day 7

appreciation for going to jail on your behalf. This would be an insult and lack of appreciation.

Remember the man you saved doing CPR in the beginning reading? What if he spat in your eyes and yelled "get away from me!" after you just saved his life. You would be angry, hurt, and rightly so. This is what happens when you reject Jesus Christ. Jesus took the blame and punishment for your crime and now He is looking for you to show appreciation. When you reject him in such a manner, you will have to bear the blame yourself.

Here's a way to know whether or not you are saved and you're swimming above the water.

- 1. Have you confessed your sins, accepted Christ as your Savior, and told someone (John: 3:18)?
- 2. Were you baptized in water via submersion (John 3:5)?
- 3. Do you have a setting that teaches the Bible in which you regularly attend (Hebrews 10:25)?
- 4. Do you study, obey Jesus Christ's teachings, and the Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 28:1, John 5:39-40)?

- 5. Do you take care of your body abstaining from fornication, adultery, and activities that endangers your health and body (Acts 15:20, 1 Cor. 6:19-20)?
- 6. Do you tell others about Jesus Christ (Mat.28:19, 20)?
- 7. Do you support Jesus Christ based organizations financially (2 Corinthians 9:5-12)?

### Day 8

If you answered *No* to any of the questions you need to reassess your relationship with Jesus Christ. Get with a clergy leader and work to mature your relationship with Him. We want you to be sure Jesus knows you on that day when men have to account to Him (Phi.2:9-11). Don't let Christ respond to you as He will to many "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord Lord, did we not prophesy in your name...v.23 "And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you;" (John 7:22, 23). When you live to see tomorrow, you can always correct a mistake, but leaving this life and not accepting Christ is uncorrectable. Don't delay! Accept Christ today.

Father I come before you to ask for forgiveness am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ is your my sins. Jesus I believe you rose from the heart. I accept you as my Lord and personal pray that you keep me strong and deliver me from evil and temptation. I give you thanks today. In Jesus name I pray...Amen.

If you said this prayer, you are a member of the body of Christ. The Lord heard your prayer and He will keep you and guide you. Confess your conversion to a friend and find a good church home. Pray and ask God to place people into your life to guide you and listen to their instruction. Continue to pray, praise, and study in the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Study Questions**

1.	God wants people to accept His gift in  a) jealousy b) envy c) love d) none of the above
2.	God worked to redeem His family from a) sin b) freedom c) lust d) greed
3.	Rebelling against God's word is a) good b) not serious c) sin d) dangerous
4.	Anyone who does not accept God's gift has God's on them. a) love b) mercy c) wrath d) hatred
5.	is too late to give your life to Christ?  a) Never b) Tomorrow c) Death d) None of the above
	Yes or No
6.	Do you have a good understanding of salvation?
	Yes or No
7.	I've accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal Savior? (If no, see page 8).

Answer the questions and mail your answer sheet to The G2G Foundation P.O. Box 472515 Miami, FL 33247-2515 or log on at www.theg2gfoundation.org. We will send you more reading material to continue your relationship with the Lord.

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Proverbs.18:21 "Death and Life are in the power of the tongue".

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