

# The Gift of Salvation According to



**T**he book of Revelation does not instill fear, but brings hope through a selection of beautiful promises which paint the image of a better world. Yes, it speaks about God’s arch-enemy, his efforts to deviate us of our Savior’s love, and shows us the origin and works of the antichrist. However, the Book also contains facts that show us two groups of those who will be saved: the 144,000, also known as the first fruits or Christ’s escort awaiting His return, and a great multitude. These groups represent history of the Christian church from Christ’s ascension to His second coming.

**1. What will that multitude of saved souls claim one day? Whom do they attribute salvation to? Revelation 7:9-10; 19:1.**

*Salvation to our .....which sitteth upon the ..... and unto the .....*

**2. What words of adoration and recognition will the angels and other celestial beings express as witnesses? Revelation 7:11-12.**

*Amen:....., and....., and....., and....., and ..... , and power, and....., be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.*

**3. How is God’s saving process carried out in our lives? 1 Corinthians 1:30.**

*But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us....., and ....., and ....., and redemption.*

- When the Creator finished forming man, the seal of moral and spiritual perfection was upon him. He was “made a little lower than the angels” (Psalms 8:5, 6).
- Everything about him was perfect: his movements, his gaze, his demeanor, his personality, and his character. His voice was sweet and harmonious. His feelings, thoughts, and emotions were a reflection of God’s goodness, but unfortunately sin upset man’s original happiness (Genesis 3: 17,18).
- Pride, envy, jealousy, rebellion, greed, and disobedience were some of the consequences. Man’s personality was deformed, and his character corrupted (Isaiah 59: 9-12).
- Man was separated from God, as it is affirmed by Isaiah: “Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear,” (Isaiah 59:2), and, as a result, he was condemned to death.

- But the Lord never abandoned man, and wants to restore his original personality by doing four miracles in his life and giving him:
  - **Wisdom.** Knowledge as it relates to our salvation.
  - **Justification.** He declares us righteous, despite being guilty.
  - **Sanctification.** He sanctifies us, meaning that He changes us.
  - **Redemption.** He saves us and gives us immortality.

#### 4. What is the first gift mentioned in 1 Corinthians 1:30?

- Above all else, the gift of “wisdom” is knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4), of the will of God (Colossians 1:9), and of salvation (Luke 1:77).

“Wisdom” also includes a “call”—God’s call.

##### What does God do as He calls us?

- ✓ He draws us to Him. “... I will draw all men unto me” (John 12:32). Have you, at certain times, ever felt an attraction to the things of the Lord?
- ✓ Jesus calls us, with His great love, saying: “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).
- ✓ He looks for us like the lost sheep (Matthew 18:12-13).
- ✓ He places a thirst to seek God in us (Psalm 42: 1-2) and satisfies it. Revelation 21:6 says: “I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely”.
- ✓ Faith is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and, therefore, comes from God and His Word. We cannot produce it of ourselves (John 6:29); however, we can nourish it by studying the Bible (Romans 10:17).
- ✓ God shows us our sins and opens our eyes to avoid them (John 16: 8).

#### 5. What do we understand as justification, the second miracle of Christ?

To be forgiven and declared righteous, even though we are guilty (Romans 5:1).

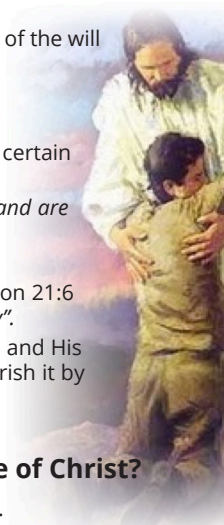
- ✓ Christ imputes, or bestows, His merits in our favor.
  - The fact that being God He became man, lived a pure life, died in our place as a substitute, and rose from the dead, makes our justification possible.
  - By His perfect and sinless life, He was able to satisfy the full measure or demand of the Law. Romans 8:3-4 “For what the law could.....do, ...God sending his own Son,.... condemned.....in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us.”
- ✓ Through His death, Christ paid the guilt that we had to pay for our transgressions. Isaiah 53:5 “But He was wounded for ..... , he was bruised for our.....” (v. 6)
  - God declares us....., even though we are....., when we accept Christ’s act on our behalf through faith. This is called justification.

#### 6. What are the implications of being declared righteous by Christ in God’s judgment? Romans 5:1.

“Therefore, being justified by....., we have.....with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- What, then, is “justification”? We each have a page in the divine records where our names and all good and bad actions are recorded. Christ’s love leads me to repentance when I accept Him in my hearts. He then intercedes for me before the Father, and, through His blood, all my sins are forgiven. Furthermore, Jesus Christ credits His merits on my behalf, so that I may appear sinless. This is justification.

#### 7. What are the benefits of this imputed righteousness that is given, donated, obtained, or awarded without cost in our favor?



- ✓ We are granted the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord says: *"I, even I, am he that..... out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins"* (Isaiah 43:25). *"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool"* (Isaiah 1:18).
- ✓ Because of His love, we are declared children of God. *"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name"* (John 1:12).
- ✓ Our names are written in the Book of the Life of the Lamb (Philippians 4:3; Luke 10:20).
- ✓ We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).  
To illustrate the work of justification, Jesus used the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican in Luke 18:10-14.

## 8. What illustration describes Christ's forgiving work or justification in Revelation? Revelation 7:14.

*"And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have.....their robes, and made them white in the.....of the Lamb."*

*"... our brethren... overcame him by the..... Rev. 12:10-11.*

- The Bible often uses the picture of a divine mantle covering our shame (Isaiah 61:10; Zechariah 3: 4; Revelation 3:18; 19: 7-8). Just like this is a permanent reason for praise and joy in heaven (Luke 15: 7), likewise should receiving the mantle of the righteousness of Christ be a reason for joy in us today.

## 9. What does the third miracle, sanctification, or restoration of the Divine image, consist of? Ezekiel 36: 26-27.

*"A new.....also will I give you, and a new..... will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."*

- ✓ Man cannot change his nature through his own efforts. Jeremiah 13:23 says: *"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil."* Continuing with the same train of thought, Paul exclaimed: *"O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"* Romans 7:24. But God can change us through His Holy Spirit. This is sanctification. *"And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."* Ephesians 4:24. *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Sanctification entails a change of heart and mind. The change of heart enables us to obey God's Holy Law (Hebrews 10: 16-17; Isaiah 51: 7; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3: 5-10).
- ✓ Sanctification involves the total change of our being: spirit, soul and body. *"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"* (1 Thessalonians 5:23). The three dimensions of the human being must change. The spirit: our mind with its thoughts. The soul: our emotional faculties including our feelings, instincts, and desires. The body: Our organism with its life habits.
- ✓ Good works are the result of justification, not the foundation for achieving it. We will feel the desire to obey out of gratitude and love to the one who has given us so much, *"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works..."* (Ephesians 2:10).
- ✓ Jesus Christ illustrated this with the example of the vine: *"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."* (John 15:5).

**10. What does the fourth miracle, redemption, consist of? Revelation 21:5.**

*"And he that sat upon the thronesaid, Behold, I make all things....."*

- This will happen at the time of Jesus' return. "...When He shall appear, we shall be like him." At his return, we will be transformed, will receive immortality, and will be glorified (1 Corinthians 15: 51-52) Eternal righteousness will exist in the restored Eden, because the Lord says: "... My salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished" (Isaiah 51:6).

**11. What can I do to have Jesus perform these miracles in my life? Revelation 3:20**

*"Behold, I stand at the door, and.....: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

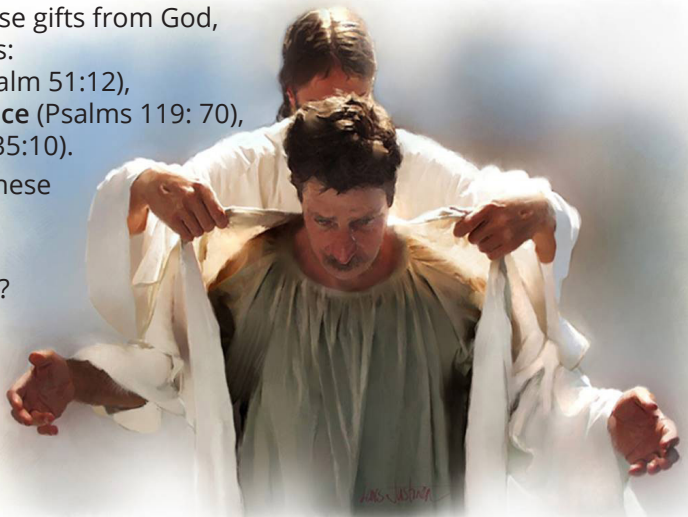
- ✓ Jesus desires to live in us and invites us to. "My son, give me thine heart..." (Proverbs 23:26).
- ✓ He died in our place, and it is therefore necessary for us to accept Him as a personal savior and Lord of our lives. "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).
- ✓ Because of His love, we are motivated to repent and confess all of our sins. (Proverbs 28:13).
- ✓ We side with what is right, accepting His Holy Law with a sincere desire to live in harmony with it, not to buy salvation with our works, but receiving it with gratitude (Hebrews 5: 9).
- ✓ We renew our decision daily, living our lives for Him, and persevering until the end.
- ✓ We are in communion with God's people and attend services to worship the Lord and strengthen our faith (Acts 2: 42,44, 46-47; Hebrews 10:25).

**Conclusion**

When we receive these gifts from God, we enjoy three blessings: **the gift of salvation** (Psalm 51:12), **the blessing of obedience** (Psalms 119: 70), **and eternal joy** (Isaiah 35:10).

God is offering you these four miracles and three blessings.

Will you accept them?



Name: .....

Address: .....