

## LESSON -18

### SALVATION- Its Need

**References** : *Romans. 1:18 -3 : 23*

*Romans. 5: 12 -14*

**Memory verse** : *Romans. 3 : 23, 5 : 12*

**Objective:** To realise the fallen state of man and the need of salvation.

**Introduction:** Imagine a boy falling into a lake. He does not know swimming. He is drowning to death. He is helpless. Can we teach him swimming and save him? No! Can we advise him some other alternatives by which he may rescue himself? No! If we sincerely want to save his life, the only way is to jump into the water sacrificing our life, get near the boy and carry him ashore. After rescuing him, we must give him first - aid, food, clothes etc. This is what Jesus Christ has done for the fallen man-kind.

### WHAT IS SALVATION?

The word used in the original Hebrew and Greek for salvation has the following meanings: deliverance, safety, protection, healing etc. Salvation in the sense that we use here means **deliverance** of man **from** a lost state of **sin** and **death** to supreme blessedness. The term salvation includes all the spiritual blessings that a man needs in order to be lifted up from the lowest hell to the uttermost heaven. They are : rebirth, justification, sanctification, glorification etc. The effect of salvation comes on all the three elements of man such as, body, soul and spirit.

### WHAT IS SIN AND DEATH?

About the origin of Sin, we find in the Bible that "by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world and death by sin" ( Rom. 5 :12) we have already studied about Adam and Eve and their sin. What did they do? They ate the forbidden fruit.

Many people ask about it this way: was it so serious a sin that they should be expelled from the garden for a simple reason of eating a fruit?

Here we must understand that it was a simple test of God whether they would obey God's commandment and believe God or not. It is here that they failed. God said, The day you eat the fruit, you will surely die.

Satan (serpent) said, "You will not surely die you will be like God".

We know what actually happened. First they died spiritually (spiritual death is separation from God). Secondly Adam died physically at the age of 930 - less than a day in God's sight." With the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day (2 Pet 2 : 8) (Physical death is separation of soul from the body.)

Adam & Eve were created after the image of God and according to His likenes. Do you know what the serpent said? "You will be like God !" Actually, instead of being like God, they got separated from God (Spiritual death) Thereby losing God's image and likeness, which they had.

In conclusion, the sin of Adam and Eve can be summarized as follows :

1. Doubted God's love and care (Gen. 3 : 4 - 5)
2. Believed satans lies and accusations against God (Gen. 3:2)
3. Trifled with God's commandments and thwarted it (compare Gen. 3 : 2, 3 with 2 :17).
4. Fell victim to (a) lust of the flesh (b) lust of the eyes (c) pride of life. (Gen. 3:6, 1Jn. 2:15 -17)

## **CONSEQUENCE OF SIN :**

The sin of the first men brought upon the entire human race serious consequences such as death judgement or condemnation, dominion of sin, evil heredity, (depraved nature and curses).

### **a) Death:**

Prior to sin, they were destined for eternal life, But by their sin, death entered into humanity. In addition to spiritual death (Eph. 2:1)



and physical death, eternal death also came upon man. The eternal death is eternal separation of man from God or eternal hell.

### **b) Judgement :**

Since God is Just, He condemns the guilty. Gods final verdict upon the guilty man is eternal damnation. "It is appointed for man to die once but after this the Judgemnt. (Heb - 9 : 27).

### **c) Punishment :**

The punishment for sin is inflicted on man in three stages.

- i) **While man lives on earth** As a result of sin man suffers several kinds of pain and suffering during his life on earth. Sickness, fear, old age ailments, hard work to earn food, physical death (Genesis. 3:16-19).
- ii) **After physical death** - After physical death, body returns to the earth. But his personality is not destroyed. The sould of a sinner who has not been saved goes to a place of torment (Luke26:23-24) This is not eternal hell, but only a place of interim punishment.
- iii) **Eternal Condemnation** - All the dead will rise and stand before the final judgement seat. All people whose names are not in the 'Book of life' will be cast into the eternal hell prepared for satan and his ghosts.

### **d) Evil Heredity (Depraved Nature) :**

By the sin of Adam, all Adamic race became subject to Sin. Generation after generation, the sinful nature has been passed on to all men. We are not sinners because we do sin but we do sin because we are sinners. A dog is not a dog because it barks but a dog barks because it is a dog by birth. Similarly we are sin by birth. David said, "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity and in sinners my mother conceived me". (Pas. 51 : 5). The sinful tendencies and inclinations are found in all individuals even in small children. This explains why children don't share either their toys or their mothers bosom with other children. Besides, all the vices such as anger, hatred, jealousy etc, seem to have a tight grip on the children too. This is due to the fact that the sinful nature has hung over from the parents. This is stated by Paul like this; "By one man sin entered in to the world and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned..... death reigned ....even over them that had not sinned. (Rom. 5 :12-14)

## **DOMINION OF SIN:**

Sin rules over man like a cruel master. Paul describes about this in Romans. 7:14-25. "I am carnal, sold under sin. Though I want to do good, I am not able to do. But I do the evil which I do not want. So I realise that I cannot escape from under the clutche of sin without a strong deliverer.

## **THE NEED OF SALVATION :**

This is the pathetic state of humanity. Feeling aware of its horribleness, Paul utters, "O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Paul himself finds the answer so much for his comfort as for that of all of us: "I thank God-through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Rom. 7 : 24, 25)

In conclusion, the mankind is drowning in the waters of sin and God's wrath. The mankind needs deliverance from such a plight, They also need God's forgiveness and acquital.

### **EXERCISE - 18**

#### ***Answer the follwing questions***

1. What is the meaning of salvation?
2. Which spiritual blessings do a man need to lift from hell to heaven?
3. How did sin enter into the world?
4. What is meant by spiritual death?
5. What is meant by physical death?
6. Summariize the sin of Adam and Eve?
7. What were the consequences of sin?
8. Explain the 3 Stages in which punishment for sin is inflicted on man, unless he is saved?

