

Week 10: Summary of Soteriology (Doctrine of Salvation)

1. Definition of Soteriology

- 1) Soteriology is the branch of theology that deals with how humans are saved from sin.
 - 2) Core question: "How can a person be justified before God?"
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2. The Need for Salvation

1) Human Fall:

Through Adam's sin, all humanity came under the dominion of sin (Romans 5:12).

2) Law Cannot Save:

The law reveals sin but cannot grant salvation (Romans 3:20).

3) Under God's Wrath:

Because of sin, all people are under God's judgment (Ephesians 2:1–3).

3. The Basis of Salvation

1) God's Grace:

Salvation is given entirely by God's grace, not by human merit (Eph 2:8–9).

2) The Cross of Christ:

The only way of salvation is through the blood of Jesus (Romans 5:8–9).

3) Justification by Faith:

One is justified before God not by the law but by faith (Romans 3:28).

4. The Order of Salvation (Ordo Salutis)

- 1) Predestination (Romans 8:29–30)
 - 2) Calling– Being called through the gospel
 - 3) Regeneration– Receiving new life by the Holy Spirit
 - 4) Repentance and Faith– Turning from sin and believing in Jesus
 - 5) Justification– Being declared righteous by faith
 - 6) Adoption– Being received as God's children
 - 7) Sanctification– Being progressively made holy
 - 8) Glorification– The future completion of salvation
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5. Salvation in Pauline Theology

1) Imputed Righteousness:

Our sin is imputed to Christ, and His righteousness is imputed to us (2 Corinthians 5:21).

2) Union with Christ:

Believers are united with Christ in His death and resurrection (Romans 6:4–5).

3) Seal of the Spirit:

The Holy Spirit indwells the saved and guarantees their salvation (Ephesians 1:13–14).

6. Assurance and Perseverance

- 1) Salvation can be assured through God's promises and the testimony of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:16).
 - 2) True salvation is accompanied by perseverance to the end (Philippians 1:6, John 10:28).
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7. Application

- 1) Salvation is not just a past event but includes the present life and future hope.
 - 2) The saved live a sanctified life, bearing fruit that reflects true salvation (Matthew 7:20, 1 John 2:3).
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Summary Key Points

- 1) Salvation comes by God's grace, through the blood of Christ, and by faith alone.
- 2) It is a redemptive process encompassing the past (justification), present (sanctification), and future (glorification).