

BIBLE STUDY

FROM DEATH TO LIFE

Salvation in Christ and the eternal destiny of humanity

God's omniscience, grace, faith, resurrection, and judgment

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Purpose and approach

To examine how sinful human beings can be reconciled to God and receive eternal life in Jesus Christ. The study follows the journey from the human condition to the hope of the new creation.

Direct passages establish each theme; complementary passages broaden its context. Explanations summarize the biblical content and are not verbatim quotations. Textual explanation, doctrinal connection, and application are distinguished. Particular interpretations are identified as such.

1. God knows every person completely

Direct passages: Psalm 139:1-6; Hebrews 4:13

Complementary passages: Jeremiah 17:10; 1 John 3:20

Textual explanation. David recognizes that God knows his actions, thoughts, and even his words before he speaks them. Hebrews declares that every creature is exposed before him. Omniscience means God's complete knowledge; it extends beyond outward appearances.

Doctrinal connection. This knowledge guarantees the justice of his judgment and the depth of his care. Religious appearances cannot deceive him. Believers may approach honestly: God knows both the sin they need to confess and the pain for which they need comfort.

Application. Examine your life before God without excuses. Confession does not provide information he lacked; it expresses agreement with his truth and dependence on his mercy.

2. The human condition and our need for salvation

Direct passages: Romans 3:9-23; Ecclesiastes 7:20

Complementary passages: Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 6:23

Textual explanation. Romans presents Jews and Gentiles alike as being under sin. Ecclesiastes acknowledges that no one always does good without sinning. Ephesians describes the spiritual condition of humanity apart from God and its need to receive life.

Doctrinal connection. The universal problem of sin does not mean everyone commits the same acts. It means no one can base acceptance before God on perfect personal righteousness. Outward improvement cannot resolve guilt and alienation from God.

Application. Stop comparing yourself with people who seem worse. Acknowledging our need opens the way to an honest response to the gospel.

3. The gospel of Christ's death and resurrection

Direct passages: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Complementary passages: Romans 4:25; 5:6-11; 1 Peter 2:24

Textual explanation. Paul summarizes the gospel he received and proclaimed: Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. The resurrection is essential to the message, not a secondary addition.

Doctrinal connection. The cross reveals God's love and addresses the sinner's guilt. The resurrection announces Christ's victory and sustains our hope. Salvation rests on the work of a living Savior, not on our ability to compensate for sin.

Application. Trust Jesus Christ and his finished work. Proclaim the gospel with its central elements: his death for our sins, burial, and resurrection.

4. By grace, through faith

Direct passages: Romans 3:21-28; Ephesians 2:8-10

Complementary passages: Romans 5:1; Titus 3:4-7

Textual explanation. Romans teaches that justification is received through faith apart from works of the law. Ephesians presents salvation as God's gift and excludes boasting. It then affirms that we were created in Christ for good works.

Doctrinal connection. Justification is the believer's acceptance as righteous on the basis of redemption in Christ. Works do not purchase that acceptance; they express new life. Faith receives grace and rests in Christ without becoming an independent achievement.

Application. Serve with gratitude. Obedience grows from the favor we have received, not from an attempt to force God to accept us.

5. Repentance and faith: turning to God

Direct passages: Mark 1:15; Acts 20:21

Complementary passages: 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

Textual explanation. Jesus calls people to repent and believe the gospel. Paul describes his testimony as repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ. In 2 Corinthians, godly sorrow leads to a restorative response to correction.

Doctrinal connection. Repentance involves acknowledging sin and turning to God; faith trusts the Savior. Neither is a payment for forgiveness. Mere remorse can remain focused on personal

consequences without leading to a response to God.

Application. Respond to the truth honestly. Do not measure repentance by the intensity of tears, but by a willingness to turn to God and trust Christ.

6. Baptism and sanctification

Direct passages: Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 6:1-4

Complementary passages: Acts 10:43-48; 1 Thessalonians 4:3

Textual explanation. Baptism belongs to the command to make disciples. Romans 6 connects union with Christ to a new way of life. Sanctification expresses dedication to God and growth in conduct consistent with his will.

Doctrinal connection. This study understands baptism as a public expression of faith and identification with Christ. Christian traditions differ regarding its precise relationship to salvation. Justification and sanctification must be distinguished: acceptance before God and transformation of life are related but not identical.

Application. Obey the Lord and cultivate prayer, Scripture reading, fellowship, and service. Grace calls us to take sin seriously and pursue a holy life.

7. The Spirit's seal and assurance in Christ

Direct passages: Ephesians 1:13-14; John 10:27-29

Complementary passages: Ephesians 4:30; Romans 8:31-39

Textual explanation. Ephesians connects hearing the gospel and believing with receiving the Holy Spirit's seal, the guarantee of our inheritance. Jesus speaks of his care for his sheep and their security in his hands and the Father's hands.

Doctrinal connection. Within the understanding of eternal security adopted here, the believer's preservation rests on God's faithfulness. Promises of assurance should be read alongside calls to persevere; other traditions explain their relationship to biblical warnings differently.

Application. Look to Christ for assurance. Security produces gratitude, perseverance, and obedience; it does not authorize treating sin as harmless.

8. Eternal life: knowing the Father and the Son

Direct passages: John 5:24; 17:3; 1 John 5:11-13

Complementary passages: John 3:16; 11:25-26

Textual explanation. Jesus affirms that those who hear his word and believe have eternal life and have passed from death to life. In John 17, eternal life is connected with knowing the Father and Jesus Christ. First John locates this life in the Son.

Doctrinal connection. Eternal life begins in a relationship with God and reaches its fullness in the resurrection. It is more than prolonged existence: it includes fellowship with the Lord. Christ's promise provides present assurance and future hope.

Application. Live in fellowship with God today. Future hope should shape our present priorities, relationships, and decisions.

9. Death and the hope of resurrection

Direct passages: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 51-57

Complementary passages: John 5:28-29; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Textual explanation. Paul presents the risen Christ as the firstfruits of those who have died. He describes the transformation of what is perishable and mortal. First Thessalonians comforts believers grieving the death of fellow

Christians with the promise of the Lord's return.

Doctrinal connection. Christian hope includes bodily resurrection. Death is an enemy that Christ will finally defeat. The expectation of being with the Lord does not replace the promise of the complete restoration of the human person.

Application. Support grieving people with sensitivity. Faith allows us to weep with hope; it does not require denying pain or offering hurried explanations for every loss.

10. Judgment and human responsibility

Direct passages: 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:11-15

Complementary passages: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; Romans 14:10-12

Textual explanation. Second Corinthians declares that we will appear before Christ's judgment seat. Revelation describes the great white throne, opened books, judgment according to deeds, and the book of life. These passages affirm accountability before God.

Doctrinal connection. In the premillennial reading adopted here, the believer's evaluation before Christ is distinguished from the final judgment in Revelation 20. This arrangement reflects an interpretation of the biblical passages together. Salvation by grace does not make our way of life irrelevant.

Application. Serve faithfully and examine your motives. The Lord knows both what we do and the heart with which we do it.

11. The second death and the seriousness of judgment

Direct passages: Revelation 20:10-15; 21:8

Complementary passages: Matthew 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

Textual explanation. Revelation identifies the lake of fire as the second death and portrays death and Hades being thrown into it. The account distinguishes these realities and shows the final character of God's judgment.

Doctrinal connection. This study follows the traditional interpretation of eternal punishment. Christians differ about its precise nature. The biblical warning emphasizes the seriousness of sin and the urgency of receiving reconciliation in Christ.

Application. Proclaim the gospel with seriousness and compassion. Teaching about judgment should never become a spectacle or a reason to despise those who need to hear about grace.

12. The new creation and the fullness of hope

Direct passages: Revelation 21:1-5; 22:1-5

Complementary passages: Romans 8:18-25; 2 Peter 3:13

Textual explanation. Revelation announces a new heaven and a new earth, God's presence with his people, and the end of death, mourning, and pain. Scripture's final picture is one of fellowship, restoration, and life.

Doctrinal connection. Salvation reaches its fullness in God's victory over sin and its consequences. The believer's hope centers on the Lord, not merely on escaping suffering. Restored creation displays his faithfulness and goodness.

Application. Persevere in doing good and comfort those who suffer. The promise of restoration encourages faithful living without abandoning our present responsibilities.

Conclusion

The God who knows humanity completely has provided reconciliation in Jesus Christ. Our hope rests on his death for our sins and his resurrection. Repentance and faith respond to grace; obedience and love express the life we have received. Judgment reveals the seriousness of sin, and the cross reveals the depth of mercy. In Christ we find forgiveness, fellowship with God, and the hope of resurrection.

Questions for reflection

1. What is the foundation of my acceptance before God?
2. How does receiving grace differ from trying to deserve it?
3. How should the hope of resurrection change the way I live?

Bibliography and references

Reina-Valera 1960: source text for the passages and their context. Nuevo Testamento Interlineal Griego-Español, Francisco Lacueva: complementary reference for consultation. No translations or Greek analyses are attributed to this work without direct verification. This American English edition translates the study's explanatory prose; it does not reproduce quotations from an English Bible version.

Bible Gateway: <https://www.biblegateway.com/> (Reina-Valera 1960).

FROM DEATH TO LIFE

Salvation in Christ and the eternal destiny of humanity.

1 GOD KNOWS US

Psalms 139:1-6

Nothing is hidden from God.



2 WE NEED SALVATION

Romans 3:23

We have all sinned.



3 CHRIST DIED AND ROSE AGAIN

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

His work sustains our hope.



4 BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH

Ephesians 2:8-10

Salvation is God's gift.



5 REPENTANCE AND FAITH

Acts 20:21

Turn to God and trust Christ.



6 A NEW LIFE

Romans 6:4

Grace calls us to obey.



7 SEALED WITH THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 1:13-14

God guarantees our inheritance.



8 ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST

John 5:24

We have passed from death to life.



9 HOPE OF RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

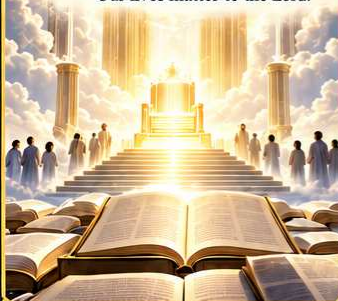
Christ will defeat death.



10 ACCOUNTABILITY BEFORE GOD

2 Corinthians 5:10

Our lives matter to the Lord.



11 THE SERIOUSNESS OF JUDGMENT

Revelation 20:14-15

The second death is final judgment.



12 GOD WILL MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

Revelation 21:1-5

Fellowship, restoration, and life.



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Biblical source: Reina-Valera 1960. Additional reference: Greek-Spanish Interlinear, Francisco Lacueva.

Appendix II · Compiler's professional profile



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