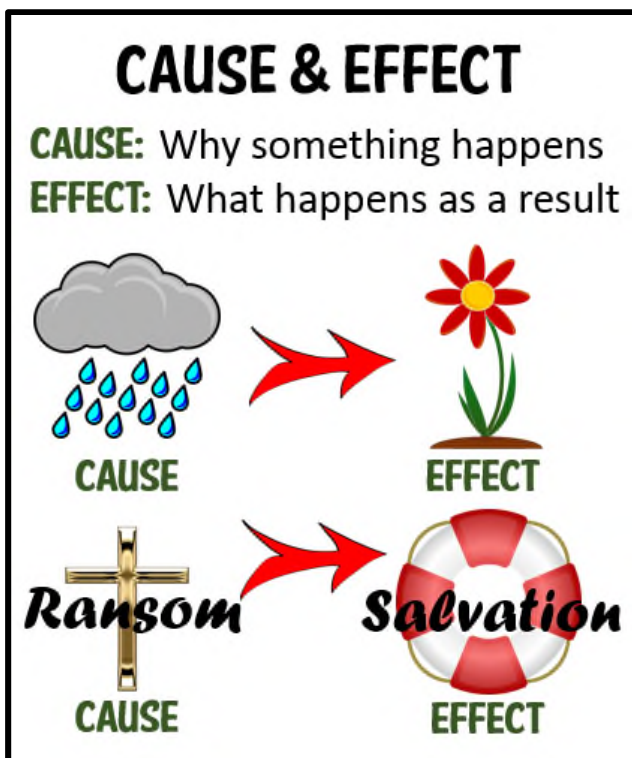


Are Jesus' Ransom and Our Salvation the Same?

1 Timothy 2:5-6: (NASB) *⁵For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.*



Jesus died for our sins, and if we believe in him, we will go to heaven. This common Christian belief that ties Jesus' sacrifice and salvation up into one neat package sounds simple, but it actually raises many questions. What does it mean to "believe" in Jesus? Is belief in his teachings the point, or is it believing in the fact of and reason for his death? What is salvation? Is it just praying the Sinner's Prayer? Is it a change of heart or a complete life overhaul? Does everyone who experiences salvation go to heaven? What about Jesus praying for God's kingdom on earth? To sort this all out, we need to look at how the Bible says the pieces go together. First, we need to understand Jesus' ransom and the specific role it plays. Once this is in place, understanding salvation becomes much easier.



Jesus' ransom and salvation ARE different. The ransom is the cause - salvation is the effect.

Let's clarify the ransom. Jesus tells us the ransom was his purpose:

Matthew 20:27-28: (NASB) *²⁷And whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

For many - how many? This will be answered as we go.

He also showed that his purpose was to die. His death would lead to much fruit:

John 12:23-24, 27: (KJV) *²³And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. ²⁴Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit... ²⁷Now is my soul troubled and what shall I say? Father save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.*

Jesus told them his death was the whole reason he was there. He came to offer his life up for a ransom sacrifice. It is THE point of the gospel.

Salvation is *not* the ransom.

The audio clips will show us different perspectives of the ransom.

 **God's justice, Why Doesn't God Save Everybody, Wretched**

- *This is the gospel in a nutshell: we are not good, nobody does good, nobody's perfect, we all fall short of God's standard. We all justly deserve His temporal and eternal punishment. We live under the wrath of God because He's holy, righteous and just. When we see somebody who's a violent mass murderer, and we think that they should get what they've got coming to them, that's*

exactly how God feels, but a whole lot more, because He doesn't like lying or stealing or cheating or dishonoring parents, taking His name in vain. God is going to settle the score, and He's going to give everybody what they have earned for themselves. We've broken His laws; all we have earned is punishment.

TRUE

We are all sinners. We have all broken God's laws.

FALSE

We are all worthy of God's eternal punishment.

The original penalty for breaking God's laws was NOT eternal punishment - the penalty was DEATH.

Romans 6:23: (KJV) *For the wages of sin is death.*

Genesis 2:17: (KJV) *But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

Why the need to die? Justice! Justice was a clear requirement in the Garden of Eden and of God's Law for Israel:

Deuteronomy 19:21: (NASB) *Thus you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.*

The worst penalty for sin is death. In the audio clip, the speaker's perspective makes people afraid of God. God's plan is not that way. God's plan of ransom and salvation is based on justice, not fear.

Jesus, in order to be faithful to his calling, understood what the Law required:

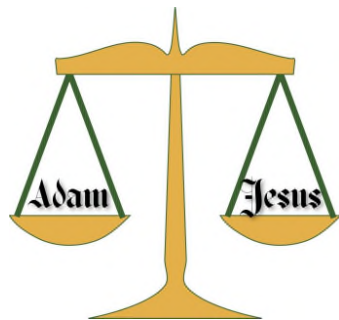
Matthew 5:17-18: (NASB) ¹⁷*Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.* ¹⁸*For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*

In living his human life in a way that fulfilled every aspect of the Law, Jesus earned life. He could then justly apply that life to the unsolved problem of sin and death. The Law provided for temporary sacrifices, but the problem of sin and death remained.

Justice was first necessary and then grace could be applied:

Romans 5:12-14: (NASB) ¹²*Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned (sin and death are an inevitable inheritance from Adam)* ¹³*for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.* ¹⁴*Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of him who was to come.*

Death reigned even before the Law was given; therefore, the death penalty was clearly upon all of humanity.



Jesus, a perfect man, gave his life as the substitute for Adam, a perfect man.

Jesus had to be Jewish, he had to fulfill the Law and earn the right to life, and then give it all up on behalf of humanity.

Jesus said he was "a ransom for many."
How many did he mean?

Establishing the particulars of exactly what the ransom that Jesus paid accomplishes is the most important part of this whole exercise. Within Christianity there are many opinions regarding the reach of his sacrifice, but in the Bible it all boils down to one very specific and definitive answer.



Most of humanity does not know Christ and never did. Does Jesus' sacrifice cover them as well, or not?



God's mercy, *Why Doesn't God Save Everybody, Wretched*

- *But God is rich in mercy and He desires to save sinners, but He can't just forgive it and pretend those things didn't exist, because then He would be unjust and He's not. So, His plan from eternity past was to send His son in human flesh to be a representative for you, to take the punishment you deserve. To take all of the righteous deeds that he did his entire life, credit them to your account. If you will repent and put your trust in His son, He will forgive you because He makes you perfect in Christ.*

Is it true the righteous deeds Jesus did are credited to our account? There is no Scripture that tells us this.

Who gets saved? How many is *many*? Romans 5 clearly shows us. Let's pick up right after Paul has established sin and death are inevitable to all and are clearly identified by the Law.



Romans 5:15-16: (NASB) ¹⁵*But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, ("The many" MUST mean all humanity, according to the previous context. Adam brought sin and death on everyone. He calls "everyone" "the many.") much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. (This MUST mean the same "the many" - all humanity.)* ¹⁶*The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.*

We have the free gift (Jesus as the ransom) pictured on one end as a balancing force for the transgression of Adam pictured on the other end.

Because the sin of Adam was there first, the scales were out of balance. The sin of Adam and the grace and perfection of Jesus "weighed" the same. What happened to *all in Adam* would therefore be counteracted by the balance of Jesus as the ransom. This was the plan right from the start.

A perfect man for a perfect man - this satisfies God's justice; His justice about stopping sin and death, not eternal punishment.

In Genesis, the gospel's foundation was made plain through the faithful life of Abraham:

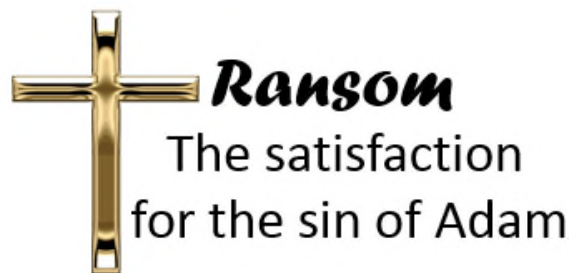
Genesis 22:15-18: (NASB) ¹⁵*Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.*

God comprehensively PROMISES that through Abraham ALL of humanity will be blessed.

Jesus is identified as THE centerpiece of that promise, THE subject of this whole blessing process:

Galatians 3:16: (NASB) *Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, and to seeds, as referring to many, but rather to one, and to your seed, that is, Christ.*

The blessing comes through Jesus' one life and sacrifice.



That life was the counterbalance for Adam:

1 Corinthians 15:21-23: (NASB) ²¹*For since by a man (a perfect man) came death, by a man (a perfect man) also came the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at his coming.*

The ransom of Jesus is the satisfaction for the sin of Adam.



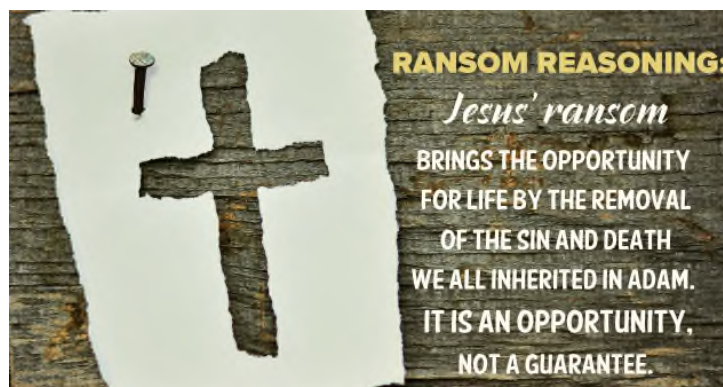
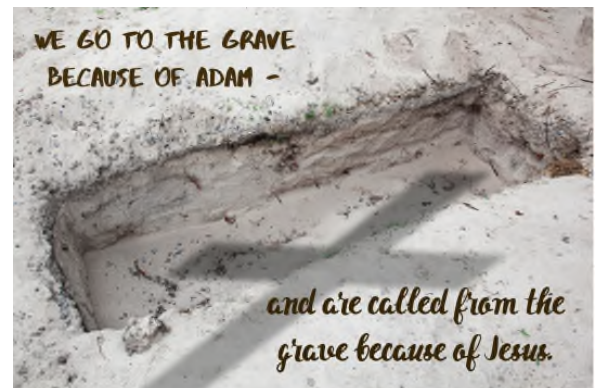
Trish asks: In the last audio clip, the gentleman said Jesus' burdens and sufferings were deposited to our account so we can be forgiven. What is the difference between that and what you are saying? The Scripture does say he bears our sins and by his stripes we are healed.

The difference is Jesus bears our sins because he paid the price for them and gives us an opportunity for life as a result of his sacrifice. We will see in our next segment that salvation ends up being an individual responsibility, which is different than what the audio clip stated.

Jesus' life was given up so we could have life. What we do with that ends up being our choice.

John 5:28-29: (NASB) ²⁸*Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice, ²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.*

Jesus is announcing because HE died for Adam, HE will call forth everyone from the grave.





Judgment is NOT a final proclamation - *it is a time of trial* which means there is opportunity.

Not only is the ransom a powerful gift, it is a gift that has its greatest value in fulfilling God's justice. It is a gift of grace. God loves us so much that He gave His only begotten son to save us.

By saying the ransom only brings us an opportunity for life, it sounds like its incomplete! Is it?

There is no phase of God's plan that is incomplete, as each and every aspect of it accomplishes what it was designed for. Jesus' ransom sacrifice is no exception. *It was given for the sole purpose of undoing the sin and death that came from Adam.* Just like Adam, each and every human being has or will have ample opportunity to take full advantage of this "get out of jail free" card.

Jesus' sacrifice is a gift of grace.

What is the deal with being a follower of Jesus? Is salvation "no strings attached," or do we work for it?



Please see our CQ Kids video, "Why Did Jesus Have to Die?" ChristianQuestions.com/youtube or at ChristianQuestions.com - click on CQ VIDEOS in the navigation bar.

The ransom price equally purchased full opportunity for life for every human being, just as Adam had before sin entered. We did not earn or deserve it.

Salvation now comes into play and the new ingredients are our attitudes, our efforts and our actions.

Salvation is enacted differently to different groups

Going back to Romans, we'll now see how Paul brings out the difference in salvation's application:

Romans 5:17: (NASB) *For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, (Again, who did death reign over? Everyone - the "many") much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.*

Everyone gets the benefit of the ransom.

There IS a qualifier here applying to the "called-out" ones. It shows them reigning, being given authority. Authority over whom?

Salvation for the called-out ones looks like this:

First, it is exclusive:

1 John 6:41-44: (NASB) ⁴¹*Therefore the Jews were grumbling about him, because he said, I am the bread that came down out of heaven. ⁴²They were saying, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, I have come down out of heaven? ⁴³Jesus answered and said to them, Do not grumble among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.*



The ransom is for everyone, but the Father has to draw the followers of Jesus - the called-out ones.

Participation in this *present* salvation is by invitation only.

Just as God chose natural Israel and tested them, it is a test for the called-out ones also. The called-out ones are called "spiritual Israelites." We need to learn from the lessons and mistakes of His chosen people.

2

Second, Jesus prepared those whom his Father called to salvation now for the rigors of their training:

Luke 9:23-24: (NASB) ²³And he was saying to them all, *If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me.* ²⁴For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake, he is the one who will save it.

For the Christian, salvation is a presently-active endeavor which is entirely built upon the grace of God through the sacrifice of Jesus. It requires our focus, attention and sacrifice. Jesus said to those who wish to follow him, *take up his cross daily and follow me.* It will be difficult.

3

Third, Jesus places himself beside every true follower to help them be more than overcomers:

1 John 2:1-2: (NASB) ¹*My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;* ²*and he himself is the propitiation (satisfaction) for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.*



He himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world - this shows there are two different parts to salvation.

The ransom has been paid. It is finished. Salvation is an ongoing process now for the called-out ones.





The following audio clip presents an opposing view:



Can't be unborn, Andrew Farley LIVE, Fall From Grace - Once Saved Always saved

- *Okay, alright, you got your doubts about "once saved, always saved?" Well, the general idea is that you wouldn't be saved unless it was "once saved, always saved." Real salvation is not temporary. If I pick you up off of the Titanic and I say, "I'm saving you," and I take you halfway across that body of water and then dump you out because you used a curse word on the way back, well, I'm not saving you. That wasn't salvation, that was temporary. That wasn't real salvation. You think of what we are - we're born again. Well, can you be unborn? Why does God use that analogy? You're born physically; can you be unborn? When you're born again can you be unborn spiritually? Well, from the Scriptures it seems like the answer is a resounding, "No."*

For more on the topic of being born again, please search our archives for Episode 983 "What Does it Mean to be Born Again?"

The John 3 texts about Nicodemus referring to being *born* again should be correctly translated as "begotten." The speaker is saying once you have been given God's grace and spirit, it cannot be undone. We see this differently and will discuss this specifically in the next segment.



Fourth, the present call to salvation requires followers to be a living and outward witness to all:

1 Peter 2:11-12: (NASB) ¹¹*Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.* ¹²*Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.*

Why do we have to fight so hard to *abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul* if "once saved, always saved" as stated in the audio clip? We must continue to fight!

If we allow lusts to take root, then they will show themselves in improper actions and behaviors.



Salvation's Application: For the called-out ones, they in this age of sin are required to turn their backs upon all earthly ambition and follow only in Jesus' footsteps. This salvation requires sacrifice.

Salvation for Christians is a daily challenge. Its results will be public for everyone later.

**Having salvation in this present age is challenging.
What happens if someone changes their mind?**

Before we get to the issue of someone changing their mind, we need to be reminded that present day true followers of Jesus have the serious advantage of God's Spirit working in them. This indwelling of God's influence provides

critical help, insight and direction for Jesus' followers who face the world's sinful barrage.

As followers, what if we know the truth but do not change? What if we accept Christ then walk away?

There is a major difference between making poor decisions and turning away from God:

Jude 1:20-23: (NASB) ²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on some, who are doubting; ²³save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment (the covering of Christ) polluted by the flesh.

Here we see those who are fighting and losing. We are called upon to help them without getting ourselves dragged down.



Nothing can separate you, Andrew Farley LIVE, Fall From Grace, Once Saved Always Saved

- *I don't get it. I see people freaking out about this "once saved always saved" idea, and I just don't get how they can read the Bible and then just disagree with what God Himself is saying. What do I mean by that? Well, if Jesus says, "I'll never leave you," - what does that mean? "I'll never leave you." Let's look at it in the original language. It means, "I'll never leave you. I'll never forsake you. Nobody can snatch you out of my hand. Nothing separates you from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus."*

He is right! Jesus will never leave us once we become his follower. Nothing can snatch us from the love of God and Christ Jesus.

But the Bible deals with when true and unmistakable salvation has been granted, and the recipients make a deliberate decision to walk away from it.

Look at the sad progression here of someone who had it all and walked away:

Hebrews 6:4-6: (NASB) ⁴For in the case of those who have once been enlightened

They had their eyes opened. They see something having to do with the gospel they never saw before.

and have tasted of the heavenly gift

They understood and were blessed by the message and life of Jesus and came forward to follow him.

and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit,

God's Spirit is working with them. They became a *new creature* described in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

⁵*and have tasted the good word of God*



The Holy Spirit, God's power and influence, helps us understand, appreciate and digest God's word and His plan.

and the powers of the age to come,

Meaning, the power of Jesus' ransom already applied before it is applied to the rest of the world. This person had it all. They were called and given God's Spirit.

⁶and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put him to open shame.

Walking away from all of this would take a conscious, deliberate decision. *It is impossible to renew them again to repentance - Jesus already died for them once and they "used it up."*

This, unfortunately, tells us "once saved, always saved" is not scriptural. Should this happen, it would be the end of our hope for a future resurrection.

1 Peter 4:17: (NAS) *For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?*

True followers of Christ are the first in line to be judged once the ransom has been applied.



Salvation's Application: For the called-out ones, salvation now comes with every advantage, but it does not override our personal will and choices without our consent. Keeping our salvation is ultimately up to us. The ransom bought the opportunity equally for everyone - some now in this life and some in the future.

Jesus never left the individual described in Hebrews 6:4-6. They left Jesus.

(Romans 8:35) Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ except SELF.



What about people before Christ, Why Doesn't God Save Everybody, Wretched

- *My whole thing is that many people in the world, in history, before Jesus Christ, and presently, will never meet a Christian and they will never know about this religion. So, there are wonderful people who are Muslim, who are Buddhist, who live in tribes all around the world. They will not know Christianity in the sense that you in your privilege have been able to know Christianity in this way. So, I need to know if accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior is the parameter to have afterlife, a good afterlife, what do you as a Christian believe happens to all the souls that never knew Jesus?*
- *So, I'll answer the question, "How did people get saved before Christ?" By believing in the Christ to come.*
- *What if they never knew about that? What if they were ten? Or five years old?*
- *I'll get to that in a second, but people were saved in the Old Testament, for instance, before the cross, by believing in the promise.*



They maybe didn't have as robust an understanding as we get to have today, but they believed in a Messiah that must suffer for sinners. By believing in Christ they were saved by Christ.

- *Early human beings had to somehow have foreknowledge that there would be a Christ to come, a God to come, and they would have to have grace through that belief?*
- *No, that's a great question. I'll just tell you biblically. What you do with it is totally up to you.*

The questioner asks very important questions! The answers were ONLY addressing those in the Jewish nation who might have had such foreknowledge. What if someone did not have the inside track? The Scriptures tell us salvation is NOW for the called-out ones, and they have a lot of responsibility because of it.

Salvation for people who lived before Christ:

1

First, we see a clear distinction between two classes:

1 Timothy 4:10-11: (NASB) ¹⁰*For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.* ¹¹*Prescribe and teach these things.*

Do Christian churches *prescribe and teach these things*? No! We do not know why.

Two Parts of Salvation

1

*the Savior of **all men***

2

*especially of **believers***

Especially focuses us on the exceptional reward for believers accepting salvation now. There is a clear distinction between two classes of people.

2

Second, the world's reconciliation (the application of their salvation) is yet future while our reconciliation (which is the application of our salvation) is present:

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: (NASB) ¹⁸*Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,* ¹⁹*namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

We are in the process of being made faithful. This is THE good news of the gospel. For the world later, God will reconcile them, not torture them forever!



Third, God's stated plan for the salvation of the world is their repentance which can only be applied once they have the merit of the ransom gift applied to them later:

2 Peter 3:8-9: (NASB) ⁸But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

Why do the Scriptures keep talking about ALL coming to repentance and salvation if it is not true?

One day is like a thousand years - God is patient. He will give salvation to everyone in their own time. Most of Christianity looks at salvation as "now or never," but there are too many holes in that concept. Too many Scriptures do not harmonize with that thought.



Salvation's Application: For the world, the ransom is yet to be applied and therefore their salvation cannot be in play as yet either. They must wait for the appointed time.

Salvation for the world is an incredibly promising future event that most Christians do not even understand.

The ransom is paid. How will anyone know what the appointed time is for the world's salvation?

Timing IS everything. First, the ransom was paid once for all. Next the time for Jesus' followers to have the ransom applied to them was when the call to spirituality/the call to life began at Pentecost. Salvation now comes into play for them. While the world is not on the same timetable, they do follow a similar pattern.

Definitions:

"To be ransomed" - Humanity was bought from Adam's sin. This is a gift we have nothing to do with. Whoever received the penalty of death (all mankind) receives the gift. The ransom makes reconciliation back to God possible.

"To be reconciled" - The process by which God brings the world back to Him. It is a long process and is the big picture.

"Salvation" - The individual carrying out of that process. For the called-out followers of Jesus now, it happens one person at a time as they strive to be *faithful unto death*. (Revelation 2:10)



 **People who never hear, Why Doesn't God Save Everybody, Wretched**

- *But to get to your big question - what about people who never hear? Here's what the Bible says. "The heavens declare the glory of God. Day after day they speak without saying a word." In other words, creation preaches God exists, and most people reject it. Everybody is without excuse, because everybody knows God exists. The most basic intuitive fact on the planet is recognizing there is a God. You would never*

believe this microphone happened by itself. You shouldn't believe that you happened by yourself. You shouldn't believe the universe happened by itself. God right now is preaching to everybody here, "Look up! I exist! I made the place!" It is the most basic understanding we can have, and most people suppress it, because they don't want to submit to God.

Salvation for those who do not know or do not like Jesus now:

How does salvation work for people who do not know or even like Jesus now? The speaker brought up some good points - creation IS a testimony of God. **For more on this topic, please search our archives for Episode 977 "Does America Show Us the Nature of God?"**

But is it THE testimony that brings salvation for eternal life? No. Those who were taught other reasons for creation cannot be held accountable for eternity for not having knowledge. Jesus explained salvation for the world will be just...but full of grace.

Romans 10:14: (NASB) *How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?*

In the future, resurrection will be the beginning of their learning process.

Jesus reveals a lot in this statement (previously referenced regarding the power of Jesus' ransom):

John 5:28-29: (NASB) ²⁸*Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, ²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.*

To a resurrection of life - for those to whom the ransom has been applied and salvation (their call to life) has been individually claimed.

The resurrection of judgment - this sets up the same pattern: The ransom is applied in the future, and the world is raised from death. At that point, the world's salvation (their call to life) becomes available one person at a time.

Resurrection gives the OPPORTUNITY. The world of mankind has been "paid for." What will they do with the opportunity they will be given?

For God to be able to deal with the whole world, they (like Israel) will need a mediator to be put in place:

1 Timothy 2:3-6: (NASB) ³*This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the **knowledge <1922>** of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.*

Salvation works differently for different people at different times.



Observations:



- God WILL HAVE all men be saved - to be given salvation's open door.
- All men will understand:
Knowledge: Strong's #1922 recognition, i.e. (by implication) full discernment
- Jesus will mediate as Moses mediated so the people have a true opportunity. This goes way beyond, "I saw nature, so I am saved." This is an opportunity to learn how to become righteous and godly.
- Jesus mediates because he bought the right to mediate by way of his ransom. The ransom is the centerpiece of the Bible.

Back to Romans:

Romans 5:18-21: (NASB) ¹⁸So then as through one transgression (Adam's disobedience) there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness (the ransom) there resulted justification of life to all men.

Through one transgression, everybody dies.

Through one act of righteousness, the ransom, justification of life will be given to all men. Man will be free from the guilt of the sin of Adam. (They are not free from the accountability of their own actions.)

All humanity is clearly included in being condemned to death.

Justification (being free from guilt) is a result of the ransom:

¹⁹For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous.

This is STILL about ALL humanity and is now focusing on their being sinners. Now they will be made righteous.

Here salvation is the open door for the pathway to being righteous (meaning "to be equitable"). The ransom gives every human being the opportunity for the doorway to salvation. It comes differently for different classes of people in different timeframes. It is the same general process with a different result. Those answering the call since Jesus' death will enjoy a life in heaven. The remainder of mankind will be resurrected on earth.

²⁰The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, (the more clearly sin was defined, the more powerfully grace would apply) ²¹so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace (salvation) would reign through righteousness (the ransom) to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We are blessed to have salvation.



Salvation's Application: Salvation for the world follows the same pattern as salvation for Jesus' disciples, except at a different time and with a very different end result. In all cases, the one-time ransom of Jesus opens the door to individual salvation which brings life.

Life comes through the ransom. For the true followers of Christ, the ransom is applied now. For the rest of the world, when they are raised from the dead in the kingdom, they will be made alive because of Jesus. They must now learn to live righteously.

*So, are Jesus' ransom and our salvation the same?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*



Join us next week for our podcast on August 19, 2019:

Ep. #1087: If I Slander and Gossip,
What Does that Say About Me?

Bonus Material!

Change is not a threat, it's an opportunity. Survival is not the goal, transformative success is. — Seth Godin

The ransom is Jesus making eternal life possible and presenting it to us as an unmerited gift. Salvation is us taking that gift and choosing to use its power to individually transform us into God's living family.

A little more on the role of Jesus' disciples being the first to receive the ransom and therefore salvation:

Galatians 3:25-29: (NASB) ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. ²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

Becoming Abraham's descendant means inheriting the "blessing the families of the earth" privilege.

Genesis 22:17: (NASB) *Indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.*

Back to Moses - the initial blessing of Israel under Moses was deliverance. This pictured Jesus' followers:

Exodus 12:13: (NASB) *The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.*

It was the firstborn whose lives were at stake and who were delivered by the blood of the lamb. From there, the nation was delivered:

Hebrews 12:23: (KJV) *To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,*



Those who follow Jesus are the "firstborn" of his sacrifice:

1 Corinthians 5:7: (NASB) *Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.*

Firstborn first, and then the whole nation = Christians delivered first, then the rest of the world.

Verified in Romans again that those who do not believe will still have opportunity:

Romans 8:19-23: (NASB) ¹⁹*For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of*

God. ²⁰*For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope* ²¹*that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.* ²²*For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.* ²³*And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.*

A bit more on the rejection of the ransom and the opportunity for salvation:

First, regarding the called-out ones:

Hebrews 10:26-31: (NASB) ²⁶*For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,* ²⁷*but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.* ²⁸*Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.* ²⁹*How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?* ³⁰*For we know Him who said vengeance is mine I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people.* ³¹*It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Next, regarding each and every human being who will benefit from the ransom and the opportunity for salvation:

Matthew 25:37-46: (NASB) ³⁷*Then the righteous will answer him, Lord, when did we see you hungry, and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink?* ³⁸*And when did we see you a stranger, and invite you in, or naked, and clothe you?* ³⁹*When did we see you sick, or in prison, and come to you?* ⁴⁰*The King will answer and say to them, Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of mine, even the least of them, you did it to me.* ⁴¹*Then he will also say to those on his left, Depart from me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels* ⁴²*for I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink;* ⁴³*I was a stranger, and you did not invite me in; naked, and you did not clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me.* ⁴⁴*Then they themselves also will answer, Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or*

a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of you? ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me. ⁴⁶These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

