

## What Three Steps Will Get Us to Heaven? (Part II)

**Romans 8:17:** (NASB) *and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.*



We know every Christian wants to go to heaven. The real question is, does every Christian know what is required to get there? Last week we began to talk about the several important elements God has put in place. These define not only His plan in general, but they clearly show us what the Christian call is all about. We found some very legal pieces to the puzzle, as well as some very practical pieces. It all boils down to two things: First, there IS a well-defined path to heaven. Second, for the rest of the world not going to heaven, there also IS a path to salvation. Its destination is earthly, but with many

similarities to the heavenly path. Now let's put all of these pieces in perspective!

Please search our archives for Ep. 1108: What Three Steps Will Get Us to Heaven (Part I).

recap  
recap

Here is a recap of the five words we touched on in Part I, along with the sixth one we did not get to:

**SALVATION** The BIG PICTURE subject of the entire Bible. All humanity lost harmony with God by Adam's disobedience. God knew this and was prepared.

**REDEMPTION** The legal METHOD by which salvation is accomplished. Justice needed satisfaction, and Jesus' perfect human life redeemed Adam, and therefore, redeemed all the rest of us.

**JUSTIFICATION** The APPLICATION of the ransom price (1 Timothy 2:5,6) on an individual basis. Justification is an event. It is the acquitting, the making right of an individual who was previously in the wrong, specifically individuals from the human heritage of sin in Adam.

**RECONCILIATION** The PROCESS of RECONNECTING humanity with God. Reconciliation can only occur if justification is in place. It is the legal requirement to maintain God's grace.

**SANCTIFICATION** The PROCESS of BECOMING HOLY. This process often begins even before justification is put in place. This is a developmental requirement to maintain God's grace.

**GLORIFICATION** The RESULT of JUSTIFICATION, RECONCILIATION and SANCTIFICATION. God's plan of salvation has always been to have an eternal family both in heaven and on earth.

**Glory is the end result of all the steps of God's plan:**

**Romans 8:18:** (NASB) *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*



**Jesus clearly introduced the concept of heavenly glory, though no one was really able to grasp it:**

**Matthew 5:11-12:** (NASB) <sup>11</sup>*Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.* <sup>12</sup>*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

**John 14:1-3:** (NASB) <sup>1</sup>*Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.* <sup>2</sup>*In my Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.* <sup>3</sup>*If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also.*



Jesus clearly assured his followers of being with him in heavenly glory.

Jesus said glory could be in our future if we comply with God's will. This is both awesome and scary.

**Christians are promised glory in heaven if they follow in Jesus' footsteps. What does that mean?**

When it comes to glory and heaven, our imaginations can easily run wild. The fact is, we really do not know anything about heaven. The imagery of clouds or harps or cities with golden streets are all simplistic...and even foolish. God's grandeur is beyond any fabrication of any earthly mind.

What does "glory" actually mean? It is a general word the Bible uses in a variety of ways:

**Glory:** Strong's #1391 *doxa*; glory (as very apparent), in a wide application (literal or figurative, objective or subjective)

**Glory:** Strong's #1392 *doxazo*; from #1391; to render (or esteem) glorious (in a wide application)

**Matthew 4:8:** (KJV) *Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the **glory <1391>** of them;*

Glory described in this verse is earthly.

**Matthew 5:16:** (KJV) *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and **glorify <1392>** your Father which is in heaven.*

The description of glory in this verse is heavenly, in the sense of, to render glorious; for us to look at and say, "That is magnificent."

**Matthew 6:2:** (KJV) *Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have **glory <1392>** of men...*

This verse is about human glory, meaning having the esteem of men.

The idea of glory, esteeming things highly, is not only reserved as a description for heaven.



We will listen to several audio clips from an atheist source.

 **Only faith, Heaven - Do You Qualify, Atheists Ally**

- I have good news if you believe every word in the Bible is true. You no longer need to die in order to find out if you'll be going to heaven. Today, I will discuss what is required according to the Scriptures for you to enter the kingdom of God. You can then answer a simple quiz to determine if you will be accepted. Ministers of Christianity teach that we only need to believe in Jesus in order to enter heaven. Their proof is in verses such as John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me." Believers and faiths other than Christianity, and nonbelievers, are therefore excluded from heaven.*

For true Christians, God's **salvation** is very present every day. If we answered the call and were given His Spirit, we are living in a state of being **redeemed**, **justified** and **reconciled**. What we must do is take these privileges and continually seek greater **sanctification**. There is **glory** in this right now and unfathomable **glory** in this later.

Part of the glory now is that God is working in our lives. God's providence is with us every day. Knowing this glorious truth helps us hold on, even in the middle of our greatest trials. Having God Almighty in our daily walk is glory now, even through times of suffering.

### **Sanctification brings glorification:**

**Philippians 1:6:** (NASB) *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

The good work (sanctification) has already started.

**2 Corinthians 4:16-17:** (NASB) <sup>16</sup>*Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,*

*Our inner man is being renewed day by day - this is God working in us with His Holy Spirit (His power and influence). This is glory in spite of our difficulties.*

### **What is our larger purpose as Christians? For what are we being prepared?**

**Romans 8:18-21:** (NASB) <sup>18</sup>*For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

This is the work of sanctification, being made more and more holy.

<sup>19</sup>*For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>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.*

The world of mankind will also be set free from *the slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God*. The freedom for mankind is their justification and reconciliation back to God in the future. These texts describe how the "everybody else" who does not now have a relationship with Jesus is waiting *for the revealing of the sons of God*.



**The freedom WE have (the justification from believing in Christ and following in his footsteps now) from Adam's sin is the freedom for which the world longs:**

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: (NASB) <sup>18</sup>Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, <sup>19</sup>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.

First, the true followers of Jesus are reconciled back to a relationship with God. They will then help Christ reconcile the rest of the world after the resurrection.



**The glory given to Jesus' true followers has a world-changing purpose of being directly involved in the reconciliation of humanity back to God.**

Even though we do not understand what heavenly glory looks like, we can be sure of its eternal value.

**We have glory and responsibility before us.  
Does this apply differently for the rest of the world?**

There are massive differences between the rewards and responsibilities of Jesus' followers and the rest of the human race. The call to follow Jesus is a *selective* call. God's plan for the rest of the world is squarely built upon Jesus' sacrifice, but in an entirely different way.

Let's apply our six words to ALL PEOPLE to see how the glory of Jesus' followers contributes:

**SALVATION** The BIG PICTURE subject of the entire Bible.

**Simply stated, the paradise God gave to man that was lost because of sin:**

Genesis 1:26,29,31: (NASB) <sup>26</sup>Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule...<sup>29</sup>Then God said, Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; <sup>31</sup>God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good...

Man was created in God's image and given dominion. He lived in a sinless, perfect environment. Adam sinned and all of that was lost.



**God's plan shows a dramatic restoration through Jesus:**

John 12:47: (NASB) *If anyone hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.*

1 Peter 4:17: (NASB) *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?*

It is not time now for the judging of the world. Salvation (the big picture of God's plan) includes a future judgment of the world to restore that which was lost.

## Prophecy confirmed *SALVATION* for all!

Isaiah 35 develops all six keywords in our lesson in prophetic form, so we will be referencing this chapter often.

Isaiah 35:1-2: (NASB) *'The wilderness and the desert will be glad, and the Arabah (desert plain) will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it will blossom profusely and rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.*

The wilderness profusely blossoming reminds us of the Garden of Eden, a perfect environment for humanity. The barrenness of the desert will be changed.

 **Faith is not enough, Heaven - Do You Qualify, Atheists Ally**

- *According to Jesus, however, admission into heaven is not that easy. Faith is not enough. We must also live a good life and do good deeds. For example, in Matthew 16:27, it says, "For the son of man shall come in the glory of His father with His angels, and then he shall reward every man according to his works." Some will find this news troubling. Jesus also insisted that few souls are to be admitted into heaven. He said, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, for I tell you that many will try to enter but will not succeed" Luke 13:24. This news is not so good.*

We think that news is very good, and if he understood the Scriptures in context, he would think so also. The door to heaven IS a very narrow, invitational door. Everybody does not get to go there, but that is not a bad thing. He is not giving the Bible credit for the plan of salvation, which is bigger than he insinuates. It even includes him!

**REDEMPTION** The legal METHOD by which salvation is accomplished. Sin brought the glaring need for redemption.

**Even in cursing Satan, God foreshadowed redemption and the total defeat of sin by showing the sacrifice of Jesus:**

Genesis 3:15: (NASB) *And I (God) will put enmity between you (Satan) and the woman (Eve), and between your seed (Satan) and her seed (Jesus); he (Jesus) shall bruise you (Satan) on the head, and you (Satan) shall bruise him (Jesus) on the heel.*

Bruising the head implies a death blow. These verses show us the promise of redemption that would be brought by Jesus, the promised seed. The sin in the Garden meant salvation would be necessary to get back into favor with God. Early on in the curse given to Satan, we see the foreshadowing of the redemption price - eventually Satan would be defeated.



**REDEMPTION  
APPLIED**

**Jesus came as a man to pay the exact price necessary for Adam's sin:**

Romans 5:12,15: (NASB) <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

These verses describe a simple equation:

- Through one man (Adam), sin enters the world and everyone suffers.
- Through one man (Jesus), justification enters the world and everyone benefits.

This is perfect justice. God redeems through the satisfaction of justice. See also Matthew 20:28 and 1 Timothy 2:5,6.



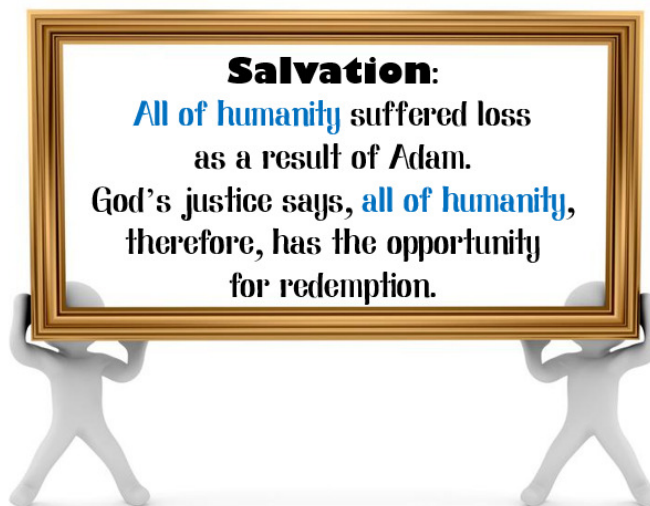
The atheist's audio clips miss the big point of Scripture: It is not over until it is over. God is a just and merciful God with a plan for everyone.

*Prophecy confirmed*  
**REDEMPTION**

**Isaiah gives hope to those who struggle, as they wait for redemption and the transition to God's kingdom previously described:**

Isaiah 35:3-4: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble. <sup>4</sup>Say to those with anxious heart, Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance; the recompense of God will come.

Redemption is shown as *the recompense of God will come*. In other words, God does not just let things arbitrarily happen. Redemption is in play.



There is a resounding theme repeated: God is just, and Jesus' sacrifice satisfied the requirements of that justice.



## If the whole world has been redeemed, are they now on trial for life like the followers of Jesus?

The question of the world's liability to eternal life or death is supremely important. For the world, salvation means eternal life on earth, not to heaven or hell as some suppose. We have given great detail to show how Jesus' followers are presently experiencing salvation and are now on trial to prove their love to God during this lifetime. However, the Scriptures tell us the world's experience with salvation comes *later* - after the faithfulness of Jesus' followers are all proven and they are ready to work with Christ in helping the world up the highway of holiness to eternal life on earth. See Matthew 6:10, Isaiah 35 (especially verse 8) and Romans 8:19.

Please search our archives for Ep. 1050: What Does it Mean to Be Saved? and Eps. 1021, 1024, 1027: Is the Hell of Christian Tradition Taught in the Bible? (Parts I, II, III)

**JUSTIFICATION** The APPLICATION of the ransom price which comes on an individual basis. Because of disobedience, Adam and his posterity lost their just standing before God. Because of Adam's sin, no human being born (except for Jesus) had the ability to stand before God on their own merits.

**This loss happened in Genesis, where the need for justification occurred:**

Genesis 3:17,19: (NASB) *<sup>17</sup>Then to Adam He said, Because you have...eaten from the tree about which I commanded...Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you will eat of it...<sup>19</sup>...Till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

The penalty for sin is death. Humans were no longer able to stand before God, requiring justification in order to have a relationship with Him.



**Jesus' sacrifice gives every human personal accountability once they are raised and then freed from the condemnation of Adam:**

John 5:28-29: (NASB) *<sup>28</sup>...for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice, <sup>29</sup>and 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 judgment - not a final stamp of approval or disapproval. It is a time of trial.*

Prophecy confirmed  
**JUSTIFICATION**

**All are presented with the plain truth of personal accountability:**

Jeremiah 31:29-30: (NASB) *<sup>29</sup>In those days they will not say again, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge. <sup>30</sup>But everyone will die for his own iniquity...*

In the future kingdom, all excuses will be taken away. Man will be responsible for his own actions.

Isaiah 35:4: (NASB) *...But He will save you.*



Justification is an event. For the followers of Jesus, that event happens when they are called and accepted by God. They are given God's influence and power (His Holy Spirit) to work in their lives.

Please see our CQ Kids Video "What is the Holy Spirit?"  
[ChristianQuestions.com/youtube](https://ChristianQuestions.com/youtube).

For the rest of the world, their justification is in the future. There will be equity for humankind, and humankind will be given a fair opportunity - even our atheist friend!



**No riches of family in heaven, Heaven - Do You Qualify, Atheists Ally**

- *And you need to remember that the richer you are, the less likely you are to enter heaven. It says in Matthew 19:24: "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Make sure you empty your bank account before you die. We must also abandon our home and family according to Matthew 19:29: "And everyone that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands for my name's sake shall receive a hundredfold and shall inherit everlasting life."*

He is sarcastic but quoting good Scriptures! It IS harder for someone with lots of money to enter the kingdom because of the human propensity for attachment. Same with fame, as we are attached to things having to do with ourselves. The kingdom in this age is about serving God through Christ.

**RECONCILIATION** The PROCESS of RECONNECTING humanity with God.

**Adam lost his harmony with God. A blood sacrifice was now needed to protect the pair who were out of His protective care:**

Genesis 3:21-23: (NASB) <sup>21</sup>The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God said, Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now...take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever <sup>23</sup>therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.

The LORD God made garments of skin - blood was shed, animals had to die in order to cover Adam and Eve. Fig leaves were not acceptable. Right from the beginning God showed us justice needs to be satisfied. Throughout the entire Old Testament, animal sacrifices atoned for their sins. Here, Adam and Eve are covered. The picture of reconciliation starts here.

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Trish asks: If justification is an acquittal and everyone will get it in the end, does it matter what we do now?

Yes, because our acquittal does not mean our personal choices are just washed away. We are acquitted from Adam's sin, but we still have accountability for our own choices. What we do now sets a template for where we start later. We want to start in the most advantageous spot possible.





## Is it still an individual justification?

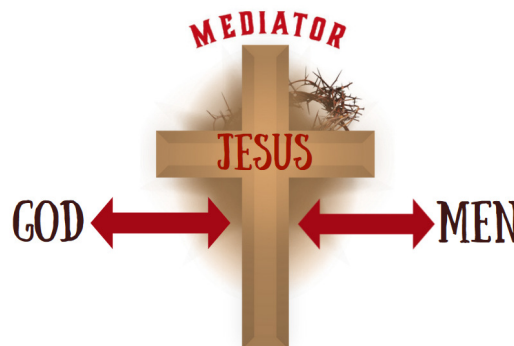
Yes. The world of mankind is justified when raised in the resurrection. They could not come back to life unless the sacrifice of Jesus was applied to them. With each individual raising from the dead, Jesus' sacrifice is applied. They are acquitted for Adam's sin and now become accountable for their own actions, words, etc.



**Those who are completely faithful to Jesus now are later called upon to minister reconciliation to all others with Jesus as the mediator:**

**Hebrews 8:6:** (NASB) *But now he (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as he is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.*

The Law Covenant identified sin. The New Covenant identifies how to live. Jesus is the mediator - someone who sits between two parties at odds who need to be brought together. He mediates between the world and God so they can move forward.



Mediator = A go-between to effect reconciliation

**2 Corinthians 5:18-20:** (Weymouth) <sup>18</sup>*And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and has appointed us to serve in the ministry of reconciliation.* <sup>19</sup>*We are to tell how God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not charging men's transgressions to their account, and that He has entrusted to us the message of this reconciliation.* <sup>20</sup>*...we, on Christ's behalf, beseech men to be reconciled to God.*

Here we begin to see a glimpse of the glory in store for Jesus' followers. Our work, if faithful, is to work with Jesus to be reconcilers of the world! God cares for ALL of His human creation. He will use part of His creation to teach the rest.



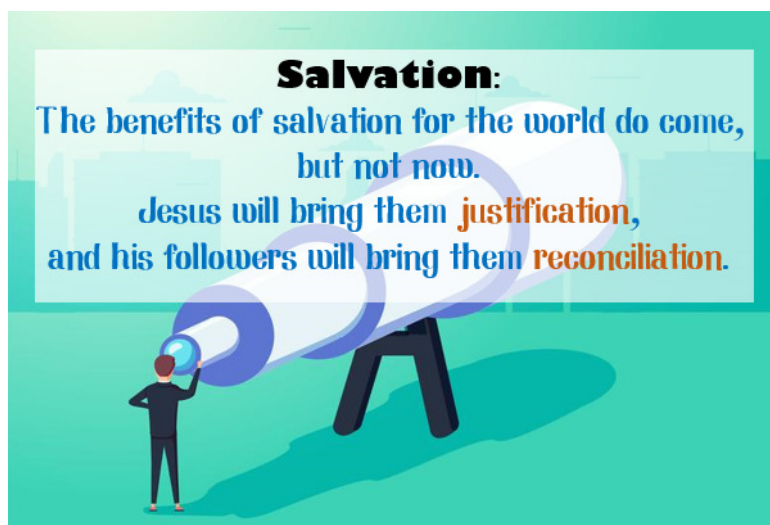
**All humanity will be raised with full opportunity to regain harmony with God that Adam lost:**

**Jeremiah 31:31,33:** (NASB) <sup>31</sup>*Behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,* <sup>33</sup>*...I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

**Reconciliation!** *The house of Israel and with the house of Judah - this is where it begins. Israel, as a physical nation, is the beginning of the earthly process of God's kingdom, but it expands from there to the rest of the world. It starts with Israel but reconciliation goes out to everyone. Mankind will have the opportunity to live according to God's will because they have been "purchased" and can grow into their future.*

**Isaiah 35:5-7:** (NASB) <sup>5</sup>*Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. <sup>6</sup>Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness and streams in the Arabah. <sup>7</sup>The scorched land will become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, its resting place, grass becomes reeds and rushes.*

Reconciliation! All of the maladies of sin will be removed. Man will have a legitimate, fair opportunity to be sanctified. It is showing God's legal care. He is going to equip mankind with everything he needs to succeed - just like Adam had.



Remember at the beginning, we asked what having glory in heaven means? This approach gives us a world-wide application to Jesus' sacrifice and meaning to heaven for his followers.

**If humanity is to be made right before God in the future,  
what does their future glory look like?**

The process all humanity will have that gives them opportunity to come to God and live a godly life is very different than the Christian process. WE are tested to be sacrificial in a hostile and degraded environment. THEY (the world) will be tested to be obedient in a righteous learning environment.

Being sacrificial in a difficult environment is one of the main reasons true Christians end up going to heaven to be the reconcilers. To be a Christian is harder, and there is much more required than simple righteousness. Righteousness is wonderful, but sacrifice is difficult.

**SANCTIFICATION** The PROCESS of BECOMING HOLY. Sanctification for the world is built upon being reconciled, purified and being put back into a position where they CAN please God.

**Man's sin had earned him the opposite of sanctification - being driven away from God's presence:**

**Genesis 3:24:** (NASB) *So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.*



God was protecting the *tree of life* for the future kingdom on earth. Man lost the privilege to the *tree of life* which would have sustained them and kept them living forever. God drove them out of the garden because sin had entered.

## **SANCTIFICATION**



The world will learn true and godly righteousness through accountability:

**Matthew 12:36:** (NASB) *But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.*

Trish asked earlier if it mattered what we do now. Jesus here says it does. We are acquitted from Adam's inherited sin, but we are not acquitted from our own decisions.

*Prophecy confirmed*  
**SANCTIFICATION**

In order to understand what happens in the future, we need to look back.

The learning process is logical, detailed and profound:

**Jeremiah 31:34:** (NASB) *They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know the LORD, for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, declares the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.*

*They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother...*



**REDEMPTION** is the legal METHOD by which salvation is accomplished.

**JUSTIFICATION** is the APPLICATION of the ransom price on an individual basis.

**SANCTIFICATION** is the PROCESS of becoming holy.

There will no longer be false religions confusing people. Satan will no longer have any influence.

**This wonderful environment is described in Isaiah:**

**Isaiah 35:8-9:** (NASB) *<sup>8</sup>A highway will be there, a roadway, and it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, but it will be for him who walks that way, and fools will not wander on it. <sup>9</sup>No lion will be there, nor will any vicious beast go up on it; these will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk there.*

The world being sanctified - made holy - will walk up the Highway of Holiness. One is purified on this highway. In this environment, they will rise up to what is acceptable in God's sight, just as Adam was in the beginning. They will learn how to be God-pleasing.



**Heaven will pass away, Heaven - Do You Qualify, Atheists Ally**

- Finally, heaven itself may no longer exist. **Matthew 24:35** says: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." What becomes of the 144,000 residents once heaven is extinguished? Entry to heaven is clearly not as simple as the ministers proclaim.



CQ Team



He is quoting a parable which should not be taken literally. Heaven and earth passing away is symbolic language. The false religious elements and corrupt governments of this world will pass away, not the physical heaven and earth. We do not expect someone who is an atheist to understand this, because they do not want to know more.

Trish asks: If doing **WRONG NOW** will make it harder, will being **RIGHTEOUS NOW** make it easier?

Absolutely! If we are living a life of morality and integrity, and we love God and Jesus but may not be called, those are great things to build on. Once resurrected and given justification, we can run up *the Highway of Holiness*.

**GLORIFICATION** The RESULT of JUSTIFICATION, RECONCILIATION and SANCTIFICATION.

**Man lost his original glory of being created in God's own image:**

Luke 3:36-38: (NASB) <sup>36</sup>...the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, <sup>37</sup>the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, <sup>38</sup>the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Adam was *the son of God*.

Humanity will have a different glory than the followers of Christ. Humanity will develop a perfect human body but will need sustenance, water and shelter as Adam did. They will be perfect in the glorious way God created Adam and Eve. Adam was called *the son of God*. Humanity has a destiny to have an opportunity to be the earthly sons of God the way Adam was.

The glory for the church is honor and immortality. Immortality is deathlessness. God gave immortality to Jesus because he did God's will faithfully. The faithful followers of Jesus who become part of the church will receive immortality, too. They will not need food, water or sleep. They will have life within themselves.

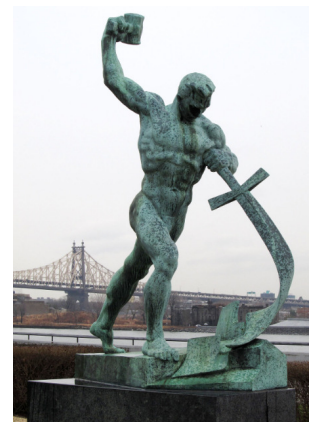
There are two levels of glory - the heavenly and the earthly.

**GLORIFICATION** applied  
Prophecy confirmed

**The world finally experiences what salvation is about:**

Micah 4:3-4: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. <sup>4</sup>Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

There will be no more war. Reconciliation and sanctification are put into place. It is a state of human glory of peace among men.





**God's plan has always been to have an eternal family both in heaven and on earth:**

Isaiah 35:10: (NASB) *And the ransomed of the LORD will return and come with joyful shouting to Zion, with everlasting joy upon their heads. They will find gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.*

The human race will be redeemed. The glory of humanity - *sons of God* the way Adam was - is wonderful!

**All of this tells us that God's glory is the glory we ALL should be focused on:**

Luke 2:13-14: (KJV) <sup>13</sup>*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup>Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men...*



God loves humanity  
and has always had a design in place  
for a human family to be His children  
and to be the glory of the earth.

God created man to be the glory of the earth. The call to heaven is an incredible privilege. Its purpose is for God and Christ to have those "ministers" to reconcile the rest of humanity back to God. Praise God for His plan, His purpose and His glory!

*So, what three steps will get us to heaven?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!*



Join us next week for our podcast on January 27, 2020

Ep. 1110: Are Christians Really "Born Again"?

**Bonus Material**

***You aren't going to find anybody that's going to be successful without making a sacrifice and without perseverance. — Lou Holtz***





## Here are several Scriptures that show the work of sanctification leading to glorification:

**1 Peter 2:12:** (KJV) *Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.*

**2 Corinthians 5:17-18:** (NASB) <sup>17</sup>Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. <sup>18</sup>Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

**Romans 8:18-39:** (NASB) <sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it. <sup>26</sup>In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; <sup>27</sup>and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup>And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brethren; <sup>30</sup>and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. <sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare His own son, but delivered him over for us all, how will He not also with him freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; <sup>34</sup>who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is he who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>Just as it is written, For your sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered. <sup>37</sup>But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**1 Peter 1:3-7:** (NASB) <sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

**Colossians 3:1-6:** (NASB) <sup>1</sup>Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. <sup>5</sup>Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. <sup>6</sup>For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come...upon the sons of disobedience.



**Isaiah 29:22-24: (KJV)** <sup>22</sup>Therefore thus saith the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob, Jacob shall not now be ashamed, neither shall his face now wax pale. <sup>23</sup>But when he seeth his children, the work of Mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify My name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel. <sup>24</sup>They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.



# Study QUESTIONS

## Ep. 1109: What Three Steps Will Get Us to Heaven? (Part II)

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1109-heaven-glorification/>

See:  **CQ Rewind**  
SHOW NOTES

1. What does Jesus promise to his faithful followers? What must they do to receive this promise? (See Matthew 5:11-12, John 14:1-3)
2. What does glory mean? How does the Bible use the word? How can we see glory in our lives as believers? (See Matthew 4:8, 5:16, 6:2, Philippians 1:6, 2 Corinthians 4:16-17)
3. What are we being prepared for as Christians? (See Romans 8:18-21, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19)
4. How does the glory of Jesus' footstep followers contribute to the salvation of all? (See Genesis 1:26-31, John 12:47, 1 Peter 4:17, Isaiah 35:1-2)
5. How does God's plan allow for the redemption of all mankind? (See Genesis 3:15, Romans 5:12,15, Matthew 20:28, 1 Timothy 2:5-6, Isaiah 35:3-4)
6. Why is justification required? What does it give to the world? (See Genesis 3:17-19, John 5:28-29, Jeremiah 31:29-30, Isaiah 35:4)
7. Why is reconciliation with God necessary? (See Genesis 3:21-23)
8. What do faithful followers of Jesus contribute to the reconciliation process? (See Hebrews 8:6, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, Jeremiah 31:31-33, Isaiah 35:5-7)
9. How will sanctification come to all? Why do your actions today matter? (See Matthew 12:36, Jeremiah 31:34, Isaiah 35:8-9)
10. How will humanity be glorified? (See Luke 2:13-14, 3:38, Micah 4:3-4, Isaiah 35:10)
11. Do you want to get to heaven? Why? What actions are you taking to get there?