

SALVATION!

A TWELVE-WEEK SERIES

WEEK 2

Don't all people want to be saved?
Won't all people be saved eventually,
including those who have never heard the name of Christ,
if they sincerely follow the light they have,
or will some people actually be lost forever, to suffer everlasting punishment?

In the first session of this series on salvation, we asked and attempted to answer two questions: (1) What is "salvation"? What does it mean to be "saved"? and (2) Who needs to be saved, and why?

In response to the first question we discovered that the word "saved" is used in various ways, both in and out of the Bible. However, when we narrowed our focus to the special sense of our personal relationship to sin and to God, we found that to be "saved" means to be delivered from sin and its consequences and to God's righteousness and its benefits, and that this special sense is clearly spelled out for us in Paul's letter to the Romans, particularly in Romans 1:16-17.

In response to the second question – Who needs to be saved, and why? – we noted that in Romans 1:18 Paul says that God's great wrath is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness (i.e., active opposition to the truth of God) and all unrighteousness (i.e., active disobedience to the law of God). Paul provides much evidence of mankind's ungodliness and unrighteousness in Romans 1:19-3:20. And we discovered that all human beings are opposers of the truth of God and disobedient to the law of God, so that all need to be delivered from sin and to God's righteousness.

In this study I would like to ask and attempt to answer three additional questions, and the first of these is: