

SALVATION!

A TWELVE-WEEK SERIES

WEEK 3

How did Christ's sinless life and sacrificial death earn salvation for those who trust in Him?

In the first session of this series on salvation, we asked and attempted to answer two questions: (1) What does it mean to be "saved"? and (2) Who needs to be saved, and why? We found that to be "saved" in the sense of our personal relationship to sin and to God means to be delivered from sin and its consequences and to righteousness and its benefits. 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 the second session we asked three questions: (1) Don't all people want to be saved? We found that some people don't want to be saved because they don't view themselves as sinful or lost, and therefore don't feel they need to be saved, but that other people want to be saved, but on their own terms, not on God's. (2) What are God's terms of salvation? What yardstick does He use? We looked at Romans 2:1-16 and discovered four possible yardsticks that God might use to measure persons for salvation, and found that no sinful human can or will be saved or declared righteous by any or all of these yardsticks. (3) Will all people be saved, or will some be lost? We discovered that although there is no human being without a revelation of God, people suppress this truth. We also found that the Bible clearly teaches the reality of endless punishment. And we learned that only those who refuse to come to God on His terms will be cast into the lake of fire, to suffer endlessly without repentance and without relief.

In this session we ask the question: How did Christ's sinless life and sacrificial death earn salvation for those who trust in Him?

To answer this question we must go to Romans 3:21-31. Let us look at this passage together.