

Temporal Salvation

- I. The Bible makes a distinction between things which are temporal and things which are eternal.
 1. **2Co 4:18** - While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.
 2. Temporal *adj.* - 1. Lasting or existing only for a time; passing, temporary. Now rare or merged in 2. 2. Of or pertaining to time as the sphere of human life; terrestrial as opposed to heavenly; of man's present life as distinguished from a future existence; concerning or involving merely the material interests of this world; worldly, earthly. (Opp. to eternal or spiritual.)
- II. "Salvation" doesn't necessarily always refer to being saved from hell and given eternal life. Consider the definitions of the words:
 1. Salvation - The action of saving or delivering; the state or fact of being saved. 1. a. The saving of the soul; the deliverance from sin and its consequences, and admission to eternal bliss, wrought for man by the atonement of Christ. 2. *gen.* Preservation from destruction, ruin, loss, or calamity.
 2. Save - 1. *trans.* To deliver or rescue from peril or hurt; to make safe, put in safety. 2. *Theol.* To deliver (a person, the soul) from sin and its consequences; to admit to eternal bliss.
 3. Deliver - 1. *trans.* To set free, liberate, release, rescue, save.
 4. "Salvation" or being "saved" can simply refer to being delivered from danger or hurt, or to being liberated or set free from something.
- III. There is more than one type of salvation in the scriptures.
 1. To be saved is to be delivered (**Act 2:21 c/w Joe 2:32**).
 2. There are salvations in scripture - *Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.* (**Psa 44:4**).
 - A. David was saved from dying in battle (**Psa 55:18**).
 - B. We can be saved from death, tears (sorrow), and falling (**Psa 116:4-8**).
 - C. Men were saved from being killed at sea when they called upon the name of the Lord (**Psa 107:23-30 c/w Psa 107:13 c/w Mat 8:25 c/w Mat 14:30**).
 3. The scripture teaches that there is an *eternal salvation* that is by grace alone and is not conditioned on anything a person does, nor can a person lose it.
 4. But does the Bible always refer to eternal salvation when it speaks about being saved? Consider what the following verses say one must *do* to be saved:
 - A. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (**Act 16:30-31**), which is a work (**Joh 6:28-29**).
 - B. Get baptized (**Mar 16:16**).
 - C. Confess the Lord Jesus with your mouth AND believe that God raised Him from the dead (**Rom 10:9**) - these are not the same thing either (**Joh 12:42**).
 - D. Call upon the Lord (**Rom 10:13**).
 - E. Repent with godly sorrow (**2Co 7:10**).
 - F. Remember the gospel that was preached to you (**1Co 15:1-2**).
 - G. Continue in the doctrine (**1Ti 4:16**).
 - H. Have other Christians pray for you (**Phi 1:19**).
 - I. Endure to the end (**Mat 10:22**).
 - J. Have children (**1Ti 2:15**).
 - K. Stay in a ship (**Act 27:31**).
 5. Are all the preceding verses referring to *eternal* salvation?
 - A. Obviously not. All these verses have one thing in common: the salvation being spoken of was conditioned on *works*.

- B. Work - 1. Something that is or was done; what a person does or did; an act, deed, proceeding, business; in pl. actions, doings
 - C. Eternal salvation is *not of works* (**Rom 9:11; 2Ti 1:9; Tit 3:5**).
 - D. Any verse that attaches a condition that a person must fulfill (works) to be saved is not referring to eternal salvation.
 - E. Therefore all the preceding verses that speak of salvation or being saved are not referring to *eternal* salvation, but rather to a *temporal* salvation.
6. What does temporal salvation by belief of the gospel save people from?
- A. Ignorance of God's righteousness (**Rom 10:1-3 c/w Rom 10:9**).
 - B. Going about to establish their own righteousness (**Rom 10:1-4 c/w Rom 10:9**).
 - C. Deception and bondage (**Eph 4:11-14; Joh 8:31-32**).
 - D. The power of Satan and sin (**Act 26:18; 2Ti 2:25**).
 - E. Fear of death (**Heb 2:14-15; Act 16:27-31 c/w Act 12:19**).
 - F. Chastisement from God for sin (**Pro 1:20-33**).
 - G. An untoward and wicked generation (**Act 2:37-40**).
7. What does temporal salvation by belief of the gospel save people unto?
- A. Knowledge and assurance of eternal life (**1Jo 5:13**).
 - 1. *Having* eternal life is *eternal salvation*.
 - 2. *Knowing* you have eternal life is *temporal salvation*.
 - B. Knowledge and assurance of their election of God (**1Th 1:4-6**).
 - C. Fellowship with God and with believers of like faith (**1Jo 1:1-3; Act 2:41-42,46**).
 - D. Fullness of joy (**1Jo 1:4**).
 - E. Rest (**Heb 4:1-10; Mat 11:28**).
 - F. Victorious living (**1Jo 5:4-5**).