

## Two Tests of Salvation

1 Corinthians 15:1-19

### Introduction:

- A. With all the varieties of practices and beliefs in “Christian” groups, what determines if a group is truly of Christ?
  - 1. Must have a correct view of who G\_\_\_\_\_ is.
  - 2. Must have a correct view of what the g\_\_\_\_\_ is.
- B. What determines if an individual is truly saved from their sins?
  - 1. There are people who mistakenly d\_\_\_\_\_ their salvation (1 Jn 5:13).
  - 2. There are people who mistakenly are c\_\_\_\_\_ of their salvation (e.g. the Pharisees of Jesus’ day).
- C. 1 Cor 15 gives us two tests of salvation
  - 1. First, we must apply these tests to o\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. Second, we must apply these tests to religious g\_\_\_\_\_ who claim to be Christian.
  - 3. Third, we must apply these tests to i\_\_\_\_\_ so we know how to relate to them.

### Doctrinal Test

- A. Some people were challenging the reality of the r\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus from the dead (v. 12)
  - 1. Paul preached to the Corinthians the g\_\_\_\_\_, which means good news.
  - 2. Those that received it and believed it were s\_\_\_\_\_ by it (vv 1,2).
- B. What is the gospel?
  - 1. The p\_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel is Christ (v. 3) - Paul did not say, Jesus, because he is referring to the Old Testament teachings about the identity of this person (*according to the Scriptures*).
    - a. Is 9:6,7 – a male human being born into the world, yet called the M\_\_\_\_\_ God.
    - b. Is 7:14 – a child born of a v\_\_\_\_\_, yet called Immanuel, which means, God with us.
    - c. Mic 5:2 – the ruler will be born in Bethlehem, yet that is not the beginning of His existence since he has no origin (from the days of eternity equals the description of God as having no beginning in Ps 90:2).
    - d. Jesus presented Himself as the I AM of Ex 3:14 three times in John 8 (vv. 24,28,58). People picked up s\_\_\_\_\_ to throw at Him.

- e. Paul is using the term Christ to refer to both the deity and the humanity of the Savior – the God-man – God who became f\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 1:1,14).
- f. Rejecting the good news that Jesus is God in the flesh is rejecting s\_\_\_\_\_ - God came to US in the flesh because we could not come to Him!
- 1) Jehovah Witnesses call Jesus a g\_\_\_\_\_ and teach that Jesus was God's first created being.
  - 2) Anyone who denies Jesus's deity or humanity are rejecting the good news.
2. The p\_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel – Christ died for ours sins according to the scriptures (v. 3)
- a. Although He would be a king that would reign f\_\_\_\_\_ (Dan 7:14), He would have to die first.
- 1) Gen 3:15 – He would be b\_\_\_\_\_ on the heel by Satan.
  - 2) Dan 9:26 – the Messiah would be cut off and have n\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) Is 53 – the Suffering Servant would p\_\_\_\_\_ for sins by dying (“in whom I am well-pleased” is a unique phrase referring to the Suffering Servant – Is 42:1; Matt 3:17).
- b. Some teach that Jesus only paid for our p\_\_\_\_\_ sins and we have to pay for our future ones through our own goodness. However, Christ died for sin o\_\_\_\_\_ and for all (1 Pet 3:18) and cleanses believers from a\_\_\_\_\_ unrighteousness (1 Jn 1:9).
3. The p\_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel – *He was buried and was raised on the third day according to the scriptures and appeared to...*(vv. 4-8).
- a. Jesus's death was confirmed
- 1) By the s\_\_\_\_\_ (Mk 15:44; Jn 19:33)
  - 2) By Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus who prepared His body with \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of burial spices (Jn 19:31-40).
- b. Jesus's burial place was absolutely s\_\_\_\_\_
- 1) Very l\_\_\_\_\_ stone closed up the entrance to the tomb (Matt 27:59,60).
  - 2) A Roman guard (4 soldiers) g\_\_\_\_\_ the tomb day and night (Matt 27:65).

- 3) A governmental s\_\_\_\_\_ was put on the stone that threatened the death penalty on anyone tampering with the tomb (Matt 27:66).
- c. The body went missing and Jesus a\_\_\_\_\_ to His followers over a 40 day period (Acts 1:3).
- d. The scripture that prophesies of the resurrection is Ps 16:10.
- e. Some teach that Jesus did not rise physically but only spiritually.
  - 1) This contradicts Jesus's words about His resurrection body which had f\_\_\_\_\_ and b\_\_\_\_\_(Lk 24:37-39)
  - 2) This makes d\_\_\_\_\_ the victor instead of Jesus (but see 1 Cor 15:54).
4. Apply the test to yourself – do you believe that God became a human being and paid for your sins by dying on the cross but rose from the dead in spite of all the efforts made to keep Him in the grave?

### Practical Test

- A. Christians are far from perfect and so will always s\_\_\_\_\_ with sin. So what differentiates believers from unbelievers in their conduct?
  1. God works in the believer the w\_\_\_\_\_ to do His good-pleasure and the a\_\_\_\_\_ to practice it (Phil 2:13).
    - a. Eph 2:10 - God ordained that we have a lifestyle of g\_\_\_\_\_ works.
    - b. 1 Jn 3:7,8 – a true believer p\_\_\_\_\_ doing right.
  2. Believers are not s\_\_\_\_\_, but fall into sin from time to time.
    - a. Most of you are not r\_\_\_\_\_, but you can run.
    - b. For believers, sin is the exception, not the r\_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Who are what rules your life?
  1. As people of God, we must hold each other a\_\_\_\_\_ and help one another out of sin.
  2. As people of God, we must influence unbelievers by showing that Christ makes a positive d\_\_\_\_\_ in our lives so that we can share the g\_\_\_\_\_ with them.
    - a. The gospel is the p\_\_\_\_\_ of God that brings salvation from sin to those who receive it and believe it (Rom 1:16).
    - b. F\_\_\_\_\_ comes by hearing the word about Christ (Rom 10:17).

**Conclusion** – Apply the tests!