

SIN AND SALVATION

Part 2 of THE PURPLE BOOK. Genesis 2-3; Ephesians 1-2.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. January 16, 2022.

INTRODUCTION

- There's no way to understand the Christian faith apart from the categories of sin and salvation.

SIN

1. Sin is human autonomy.

Genesis 2:16-17 (ESV) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

2. Sin influences our attitudes before our actions.

Genesis 3:6 (ESV) So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

James 1:14-15 (ESV) But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

3.Sin's consequences are awful.

Genesis 3:7-8 (ESV) Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. 8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Ephesians 2:1-3 (ESV) You were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

SALVATION

1.The saving power of the crucifixion of Christ.

Ephesians 1:7-8 (ESV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us ...

2. The saving power of the resurrection of Christ.

- **Why God saves us:**

Ephesians 2:4 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us ...

- **How God saves us:**

Ephesians 2:5-7 (ESV) ... even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

- **What we do to save ourselves:**

Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV) For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

CONCLUSION - HOMEWORK

1. Find a quiet place to review today's teaching and to meditate on the weight of sin and the wonder of salvation.
2. Discuss sin and salvation in your small group.
3. Work through The Purple Book's chapter two daily studies on Lordship and Obedience.
4. If you'd like some more information about the core of the Christian faith, check out the little booklet, Two Ways to Live. It's free on the book table.

TODAY'S BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL TERM: JUSTIFICATION

- The immediate result of ... union (with Christ) is God's free gift of justification, by which he declares believers to be righteous because of their union with the Righteous One, the Lord Jesus ... God legally declares that we are no longer deemed guilty under the divine law but are forgiven and counted righteous in God's sight (MacArthur & Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth*).
- "Justification is an instantaneous legal act of God in which he (1) thinks of our sins as forgiven and Christ's righteousness as belonging to us, and (2) declares us to be righteous in his sight" (Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (p. 723). Zondervan).
- Martin Luther's discovery of the biblical doctrine of justification by grace alone through faith alone apart from human works or merit.

"When I discovered that, I was born again of the Holy Ghost. And the doors of paradise swung open, and I walked through."