

Lesson 23

The Seven Steps of Salvation

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A while ago this movement did a study on the steps of salvation; it was connected to the studies of the Nature of Man. There are 7 steps and they can be seen in two different ways: individually and corporately (on the line of the Priests). We will be looking at both ways today.

The Seven Steps of Salvation

Step 1- Conviction

Conviction is the first step that anyone can take in the seven steps of salvation. It is the first step in reconciliation to God. Conviction is when the sinner realizes they have done something to offend God. This conviction is brought by the Holy Spirit.

Step 2- Repentance

After we are convicted of sin we should repent. Repentance is a sorrow for sin and a turning away from it. Many people are sorry for the outcome of their sin- not for the sin itself- that is not true repentance. True repentance comes from Christ, but we are to go to Christ before we are repentant; we should not wait until we are "better". After the Spirit of God (consciously or unconsciously) convicts us by awakening our conscience it leads us to Christ. When we see His love in dying for us we will recognize and loath our sinfulness, and stop committing sin- we will repent; we will want to be like Christ.

Step 3- Confession

When we have repented we next need to confess our sins. We need to confess our sins specifically: private sins should be confessed privately to God, and public sins should be confessed publicly to those whom we have wronged or hurt through our sins, and to God who is their creator. Confession needs to be genuine or God will not listen. Also we cannot try to confess and then give an excuse for what we did- He does not accept that either; that spirit of self-justification is from Satan. But if we truly and deeply confess our sins God will forgive us.

Step 4- Conversion

The fourth step of salvation is conversion. Conversion is the act of turning from unrighteousness to righteousness. During conversion you begin to grow in grace and a knowledge of God. Conversion is the fourth step of salvation, but it also covers the first three: conviction, repentance, and confession. So we can see that conviction, repentance, and confession are all part of conversion.

Step 5- Justification

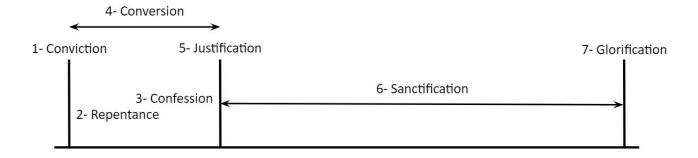
Justification or righteousness is the fifth step in the seven steps of salvation. After we confess our sins and want to be righteous like Christ, we have to decide to consecrate (give) ourselves to him- He wants our corrupt heart so He can fix it; we have to choose (will) to give it to Him and to serve Him. We must then have faith that God will forgive us of our sins and accept us as He has promised. We cannot doubt or think we are too bad to be forgiven and accepted by God. If we have faith in His word, He will forgive us and give us Christ's righteousness and a new heart. We cannot wait to feel it, we must just believe it and it is so. This is the glorification of the inner man.

Step 6- Sanctification

Sanctification is living a righteous life. It is the work of a lifetime. It is the result of lifelong obedience: constantly dying to self and constantly living for Christ. Sanctification is the sixth step of salvation.

Step 7- Glorification

Glorification is when we will receive a new body. Remember, this body we have is not uswe are in the body. So, at the Second Advent, the faithful will receive a glorified body: they will be glorified.



The Seven Steps on the Line of the Priests

1989- Conviction

Before the Time of the End there was darkness. Darkness can represent sin. The Time of the End for the Priests was 1989 so before 1989 there was darkness, or sin. At 1989, light came, the first angel arrived and began to convict God's people of sin. Conviction is the first step and 1989 was the first step.

1996- Repentance and Confession

Repentance and confession are the next two steps in the seven steps of salvation. They correspond to the time after 1989- conviction. They parallel part of the message and work of John the Baptist (the 1st angel). He preached to the people telling them to repent and be baptized, confessing their sins so they could be forgiven. He began to preach in the spring of AD 27- the formalization of the/his message. So repentance and confession are at 1996 (the formalization on the line of the Priests). They are part of the 1st angel's message after the first step which, as we have seen, is conviction.

1989-2001- Conversion

We mark 1989 to 2001 as steps 1-4, which is conversion. Darkness ends at 1989, and darkness can represent sin; that's how we can see that conversion begins at 1989. Our first dispensation (1989-2001) is the ploughing. The act of ploughing represents getting rid of sin (conversion) so that's a second witness to placing conversion between 1989 and 2001.

2001- Justification

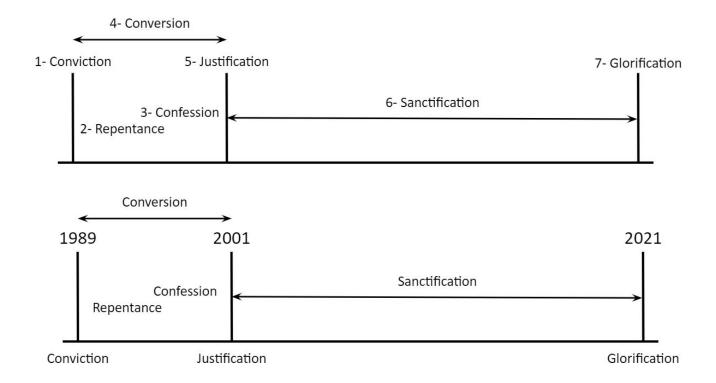
The fifth step of salvation, justification, is at 2001. We can mark justification at 2001 because justification is baptism. We know from the line of Christ that AD 27 is where Christ was baptized. AD 27 parallels 2001, so that means baptism is at 2001. Since baptism represents justification, and this is where our inner man is renewed, it can be rightly placed at 2001.

2001-2021- Sanctification

From September 11, 2001 to 2021, the movement will have been going through a process of sanctification. During this time, the Priests can be represented as plants, and plants can be perfect at every stage of their growth, so the Priests can be "growing" perfectly, or, living a perfect life in this time: sanctification.

2021- Glorification

The waymark 2021 is where we can place glorification. To be glorified the second time is to get a new body, and where do we get a new body? At the Second Coming (on the 144,000's line). We can fractalize the Second Coming down to 2021 on the Priest's line and therefore we can place glorification at 2021. 2021 is not the literal Second Coming, and that means it isn't the literal glorification, but 2021 lines up with the Second Coming, so we can still say glorification for the Priests is there, just not literally.



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