

"TFT Bible Class will equip you with Christain values, principles and doctrines with the aim of transforming you to become an effective disciple in the ministry of Christ."

40 **ANNIVERSARY**
The Freeway Tabernacle
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TOPIC 1.1

UNDERSTANDING SALVATION AND CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES



THE KEY LEARNING OUTCOME:

Students will have an understanding and appreciation of the foundations of Christian salvation and its doctrinal beliefs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE LESSON:

1. To help you understand salvation
2. To explain how an individual is saved
3. To empower you to be able to maintain your salvation
4. To teach you the doctrines of Christianity

TOPIC: OVERVIEW

For us to understand what Salvation is, we have to first look at the beginning, at the story of creation in the book of Genesis 1.

The bible says; "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

In different days He created different things; he created day and night, separated the waters from the land, put vegetation, plants and trees on the earth and animals. You'll find this information when you read Genesis 1:1-25. Genesis 2 gives us a more detailed account of what happened during creation.

GENESIS 2:5-6 (NIV)

Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. You'll notice in Genesis 1 God created the Heavens and earth by saying. However, Genesis 2 tells us that, even though He created by saying, nothing had appeared on the earth as yet because there was no man to work the ground, that's when God decided to create man.

THE CREATION OF MAN

Genesis 1:26-27 (NIV)

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female.

In Genesis 2 verse 5, God doesn't send rain into the earth because **THERE IS NO ONE** to work it, so He creates man. The reason He creates man is in verse 26 of Genesis 1; it is so that **THEY MAY RULE OVER THE CREATURES OF THE EARTH.**

As a result, God creates man, and this is how He did it;

GENESIS 2:7 (KJV)

The Lord God formed man out of the dust of ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. This is what leads us to believe, human beings are three dimensional, consisting of: Spirit, Soul and body.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23 (KJV)

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thus, the proper composition of human beings is:

- **MAN IS A SOUL** – this is the mind, character, feelings.
 - **LIVES IN A BODY** – this is your physical body and contains all your 5 senses.
 - **POSSESSES GOD'S SPIRIT** – the breath of God. God is Spirit. This enables man to connect to God.
- In Genesis 2 verses 18, 21 and 22, God decides man cannot be alone, so He creates woman. And now there are two human beings in the garden.

GENESIS 2:18, 21 - 22

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him and the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

THE FALL OF MAN

What happened for man and God to be separated, sin happened. God gave a rule, and man broke the rule;

GENESIS 2:15-17 NKJV

Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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." God puts man in the garden, and He says to man: "Work it, and if you're hungry you can eat from any tree, except this one tree; the tree of knowledge of good and evil." This is the only rule that God gave man.

The woman had not been created yet, when God gave this rule to man. Therefore, this rule was given particularly to the man. It can be argued that the woman did not hear the rule directly from God, but the message must have been passed by the man to the woman. There was only one rule, therefore, there could only be one sin and that sin was to do what God said they should not do; and that was to eat of the tree. When the devil comes to tempt humans, he comes through a snake talking to the woman.

The devil manages to persuade the woman to eat the forbidden fruit, and the woman gave the same to the man who also partakes in this act of disobedience, doing what God said they must not do. The results of doing what God said they should not do, is that they both realize they're naked and they sew leaves together to cover their nakedness.

GENESIS 3:1-7 (NIV)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Thereafter, God comes into the garden, as He normally did, and the man and the woman are no longer in their original state, they have now been tainted by sin.

GENESIS 3:8-13 (NIV)

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

In **Genesis 2:17** God had said to Adam, if he touches the tree, he will die. The kind of death that Adam experienced is not one of the physical body, but one that separated him from God. Though his physical body did not perish, he did experience the biggest consequence of sin; spiritual death, being separated from God. Remember God breathed His spirit into man and man became a living soul. That Spirit of God in us is what connects us to God. Spiritual Death is what happens, when we sin, it separates us from God.

ROMANS 6:23a (NIV)

For the wages of sin is death...

ISAIAH 59:2 (NIV)

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

The story continues, and God puts a curse on both man and woman. They are no longer in their original state, as God had created them like we discussed earlier. Their sin brought curses to all of humanity, and because of that one act, by the first two people on the earth, humanity is now of a sinful nature and humanity needs to be redeemed and saved.

ROMANS 5:12 (NKJV)

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. The entrance of sin, separated human beings from God. God had to have a plan, of bringing humanity back to Him. This plan is salvation