

ABOUT SALVATION (a Catholic Biblical view)

REMEMBER:

SALVATION STARTS NOW. It is a faith-full lifestyle that continues into Heaven and finally reaches it's fullness in the kingdom when Jesus comes again in glory.

SALVATION IS A GIFT OF GOD. If we could do it ourselves the redemptive work of Jesus would be unneeded.

SALVATION IS NOT AUTOMATIC. While Jesus died to save everyone, not everyone goes to heaven. It's up to our free will to actively accept His salvation, or to ignore and reject it.

WE ACCEPT SALVATION BY ACTIVE FAITH. We personally decide to put our faith in the good news about the Risen Christ among us. This faith is expressed in heart, word and lifestyle.

WE NEED A PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP WITH JESUS. This friendship thrives on good communications; on both listening and talking with our Savior, Jesus. We can experience this relationship in a way that assures us of it's reality.

WE ALSO NEED A CORPORATE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. Church is a central part of Christ's plan for our salvation. Jesus is alive in his people. As part of His Church, our own muscle and bone help make up the now-time Body of Christ. He is the only one worthy of Heaven. We get there by being part of Him.

WE ARE BAPTIZED WITH WATER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. Through Baptism and the other sacraments we express and nourish this faith in Jesus and His salvation, in full communion with the People of God.

WHEN WE DIE IN THE STATE OF SALVATION IT'S FIXED FOREVER. Our basic decision for Christ must be made now while living. Purgatory is only for the saved.

WHILE SALVATION IS BY ACTIVE FAITH, JUDGMENT IS ON FAITHFUL CONDUCT. Faithful conduct is the fruit of the Christ-life in us. Our behavior shows where we are heading.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE FOR A GOOD ETERNITY. Heaven is a little like a concert. Anyone with a valid ticket can get in, but some enjoy it more than others. Those who understand the music best, appreciate it the most. It takes preparation to enjoy. What you bring to the concert from life determines what you get out of it. If your values are not music you may even be bored by the concert. In Heaven, just a little faith in our Savior pays the ticket. If you don't really love God and are turned of by enthusiastic praise, you could just be bored as Hell. A joyful lifestyle of thanksgiving and worship is simply practice for a good eternity. Praise the Lord.