

ALL ACCOUNTABLE PERSONS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DESTINY

Man inherits a nature controlled by soul and spirit in which he corrupts that nature due to internal conflict with desires for comfort in a hostile environment. Romans 3:23

Guilt becomes owned by all who sin and come short of the glory of God and are therefore under condemnation. Only Jesus in His human body never sinned or fell short of the glory of God.

God desires all people to be saved and has made a way of salvation in Christ. Jesus allowed sin to kill His physical body and since He died sinless, sin is condemned to removal from all creation. Jesus arose in defeat of sin, death, and Satan, and He arose with all power and authority to judge all things and remove sin from all creation. Today Jesus is saving from sin all who believe and receive Him as Lord and Savior. Romans 8:3 Matthew 28:18 1 John 2:2 1 Peter 3:18

God has taken all the initiative in saving us from sin and our correct response to the conviction of the Holy Spirit is the only condition holding us back from salvation. Our free response is not “a work”.

Any person who cooperates correctly to Holy Spirit conviction believing in Jesus and receiving Jesus is regenerated at that moment in time. Regeneration is a spiritual birth to a soul that was dead to the life of God lived out in that soul. Ephesians 2:10 2 Corinthians 3:18 Romans 5:18 John 3:3,16,36

Correct cooperation with the Spirit involves knowledge that Jesus died to take away sin and to replace our sin with righteous actions. The regenerated person starts a journey of progressive change which includes the disciplinary actions of God to bring us to completion. We are brought to glory and the presence of God totally sinless and totally righteous. Hebrews 12:5,6 Galatians 5:22,23 Phil. 1:6

God has chosen to save all who will cooperate with the Spirit and believe in Jesus and receive Him as Lord and Savior. God’s omniscience does not determine human cooperation or decisions for Jesus. All accountable persons are responsible for their destiny due to cooperation or lack of cooperation.

Once a person is regenerated, God promises to complete the work He began in that person sealing their eternal destiny. By the testimony of the Holy Spirit producing the fruits of the Spirit in one's life you can know that you are saved right now and have security and assurance of your salvation.

THE BIBLE DOES RECONCILE GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY WITH MAN’S RESPONSIBILITY

Calvinism holds that God in His sovereignty and grace chooses people for salvation without taking their response or their cooperation into account.

Arminianism holds that we produce in ourselves the decisive desire for Christ and are saved.

Both Calvinism and Arminianism are biblically wrong at every major point.

There is biblical truth concerning God's sovereignty and man's responsibility.

The Holy Spirit convicts all accountable people of personal sin, the need for right standing with God, and the fact of judgment to come.

A person must first respond in truth to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. As the person responds in the appropriate manner, God brings that person knowledge of Jesus the Savior. As a person responds appropriately, God produces the desire for Christ through knowledge from Scripture. God uses many avenues for getting knowledge to a person that is necessary for salvation. God is definitely taking a person's response into account before that person is saved. Election comes after the person is "in Christ". God chooses those who are "in Christ" for eternal life and to be holy and blameless in His sight. Ephesians 1:4

A wrong definition of election leads many to conclude God will save whoever He saves without us taking the gospel to the world. God uses born again believers to dispense the gospel of Jesus Christ and to aid the spiritual growth of the new believer.

THE BLOOD

Jesus died to save us from our sins, but the death of Jesus did not take away our sins. It is our death, "in Christ" that takes away our sins. The death of Jesus did not take away the sins of any person. The death of Jesus condemns sin to sin's execution. Jesus defeated sin and death. It is the resurrected life of Jesus who takes residence in the believer and saves the believer from sin.

The life-giving blood of Jesus is the indwelling Spirit of the resurrected Jesus in the life of the believer which saves us from our sins.

Eat His flesh and drink His blood is a metaphor for the new life "in Christ" which creates the newness of life. The old way of life has passed away, new life has begun.

The physical blood of Jesus, shed on the cross, gives Jesus the right to remove sin from all creation. The resurrected life of Christ saves us when we cooperate with the Spirit, believe in Jesus, and receive Jesus. So it is the resurrected life-giving blood of Jesus, the indwelling Spirit, which regenerates us. Regeneration happens today when cooperating people receive Jesus. So the death of Jesus 2000 years ago did not save anyone. His physical blood did not take away anyone's sin. But His physical, sinless, shed blood gave Him the right to save you through faith. God presented Jesus as the mercy seat by His blood, through our faith in His blood, to demonstrate His righteousness. So we are saved when we believe that the physical shed blood of Jesus gave Him the right to save us from our sins. The one act of righteousness, Jesus sinless death, is the justification for God giving eternal life to all who receive Jesus by faith in Him. Romans 5:18; 6:5-18 Romans 8:3 Sin is condemned to execution.