

THE WHOSOEVER WILLS

Jesus is the Eternal Son of God and became human through the virgin birth at Bethlehem. Because of His virgin birth, Jesus was not born with a sin nature. Jesus lived sinless and died sinless. Jesus was dependent on prayer to God the Father and through obedience to the written Scriptures, the Old Testament. Jesus learned obedience by daily being tempted but constantly obeying Scripture in every instance. His "chastisement" was the "learning of obedience" and "His being made perfect" which brings us peace and salvation. Jesus died sinless so that "sin" would be condemned to the utmost for killing the Son of God. Sin proved itself to be the atrocious thing that it is. Sin killed the innocent and holy Jesus. The cross of Jesus condemns sin to be removed from all Creation. Jesus, the Second Adam, reversed what Adam brought upon the earth because of his one sin. Jesus did one act of righteousness, dying sinless, which triumphed over Satanic powers and authorities and over sin and death. For 2000 years, Jesus has been allowing "whosoever will" to follow Him and experience new life in Him. Jesus is humanity's God given substitute for Adam whereby we may have new life by being followers of Jesus. Jesus died sinless so that He would have the right to make us into new creations and remove us from sin and death. Followers of Jesus have the promise of total sin removal and total righteousness. This promise removes us from the wrath of God and is justification for giving us eternal life in Him. Jesus died a sinless sacrifice and by our faith in His blood (His sinless sacrifice), God demonstrated His righteousness and His being just as the One who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Jesus changes the "whosoever wills" and reconciles us to God. At the cross, God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their sins against them. All people are provisionally reconciled to God and provisionally forgiven of their sin. The "whosoever wills" are judicially reconciled to God and judicially forgiven of all their sin. Jesus died to take away sin from the whole cosmos. Jesus died for all people. Jesus' sinless death makes provision for any person to respond to Holy Spirit conviction and be brought to saving faith.

God loved the whole creation so much that He gave His Son that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life (relationship with Him) in a New Heaven and New Earth free of sin and all its consequences.

The “whosoever wills” are those who allow God to change them in Christ. We die to sin and are raised to the newness of life in Him. We are “born from above.” We are permanently indwelled by the Holy Spirit. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit. We are being saved from the power of sin. In sanctification, we are in remission of sin and we are led in acts of righteousness. In glorification, we are made totally sinless and totally righteous by the cutting off of the flesh. Our new creation is revealed in glorification.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. All have two needs. We must be removed from all sin and we must be totally righteous in glorification.

John 1:29; Hebrews 5:8; Isaiah 53:5; Romans 3:21-26; 5:12,18; 8:3; Colossians 2:15

THREE CALLS UPON MAN FROM GOD

The first is the call upon man to obey. This call comes upon all men through conscience, family, government, society, religion and morality, and Scripture. This call is insufficient for salvation. The call does not save. This call warns us that we need a Savior from our sin.

Matthew 5:48

The call of the Gospel of Jesus Christ comes through Scripture and the conviction of the Holy Spirit concerning our sin, our need for righteousness (Jesus), and the fact of judgment for breaking the Law. This call alone is insufficient for salvation. The call does not save. The call warns us that we need a Savior and that God has provided the Savior through Jesus' death and resurrection. John 16:8-11; 1 John 2:2; 1 Tim. 2:6; Rom. 5:6

There are no conditions upon God for giving salvation. God chooses out of His graciousness to save the ungodly. So salvation is all of God and only God receives the credit and the glory for saving a man.

Man receives no credit for his salvation because God initiates and provides the process for salvation to occur. Psalm 115:1; 1 Cor. 1:29-31; Romans 4:1-3; 5:18-21

There is one condition upon man for receiving salvation. Man must exercise faith and cooperate with Holy Spirit conviction allowing the Spirit to bring him to saving faith. God promises to save those who believe in Jesus and turn away from any other means of salvation (the whosoever wills). Acts 16:31; John 3:16; Romans 5:10; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

The call to Christian ministry comes upon every born again believer. The Great Commission is a call upon all believers. Most are called to minister non-vocationally. A few are called to employed vocational ministry, some to full time and some to bivocational.

Matthew 28:18-20