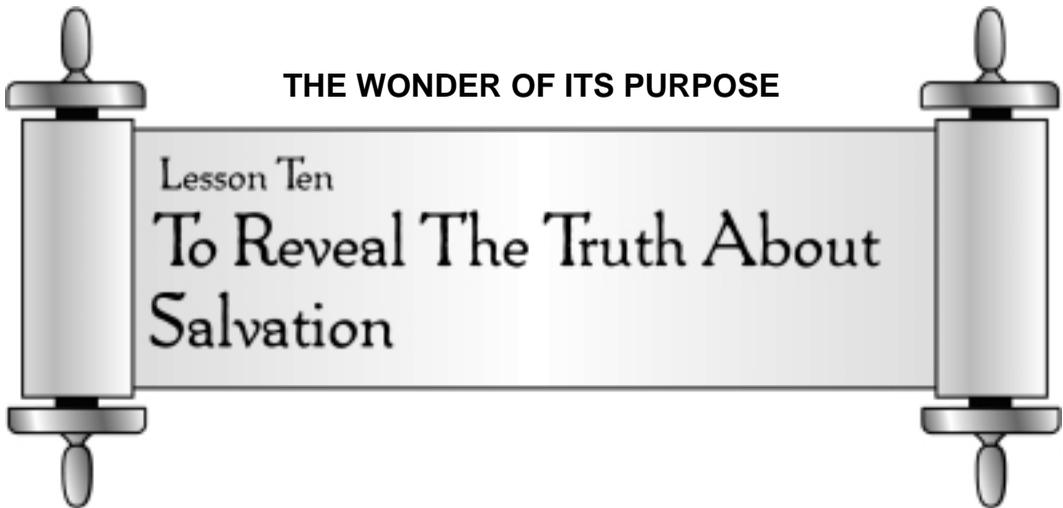


THE WONDER OF ITS PURPOSE



This week we conclude a four week study of the purpose of God's wonderful Word. What is the fourfold purpose of God's Word? To reveal...

- The Truth about God
- The Truth about Man
- The Truth about Sin
- The Truth about Salvation

Thus far we have looked at the first three of these purposes. Today we look at the fourth—God's Word reveals the truth about salvation.

Man's Views Of Salvation

First, we will look at man's own views of salvation as seen in modern worldviews and philosophies.

Philosophy	View Of Salvation
Communism/Socialism	Perfect society with no class distinctions
Psychology	Self-actualization
Humanism	Human progress
New Age	Realizing your own divinity

All these world philosophies are man-centered. None of them look beyond man for his salvation. Of course the Bible is the only source that can give us the truth about salvation.

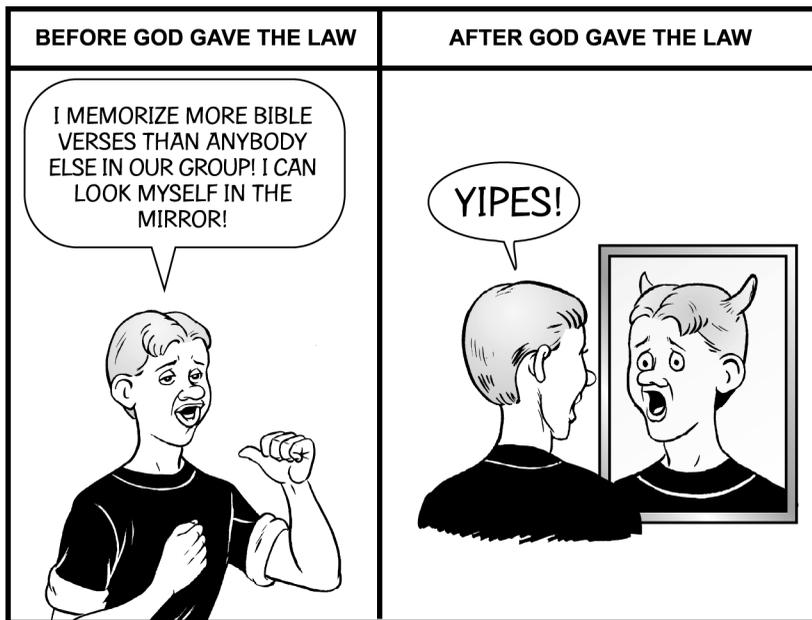
God's Truth About Salvation

Man Cannot Save Himself (Romans 8:3)

What theological term describes man's total and utter sinfulness and thus his complete helplessness to save himself? Total depravity

According to Romans 3:19-20 why was the law given?

- 1) To stop people from bragging about how good they are.
- 2) Show how totally unable they are to keep God's commands.



Christ Provided The Way Of Salvation Through His Death, Burial, And Resurrection (Romans 5:6-8)

The key word in salvation is substitution. We are condemned, guilty sinners. We must pay for our sins by dying and going to hell. There is no escape. However, God will accept a substitute—that is, someone else may take our place!

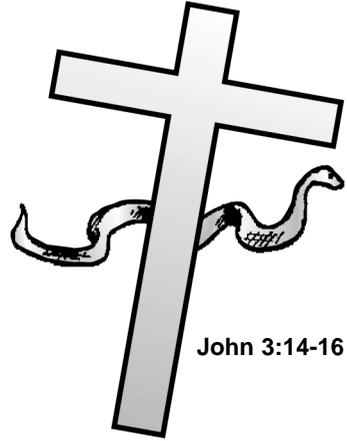
However, the substitute must meet three criteria:

- He must be innocent of sin.
- He must be human.
- He must be willing.

Who alone meets all three criteria? CHRIST

Man Is Saved By Faith In Christ
Alone (John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 16:31)

Only through faith in God can man be saved. These other philosophies all put their trust in man, but man will never save himself. He must trust Christ.



One word of caution. It is not enough just to believe what the Bible says about man, sin, and salvation. You must take a step of faith and trust Christ as your Savior and Lord, receiving what He did for you on the cross as the full payment for your sin. Thus, you must not only believe the Bible, you must act upon it and place your faith in Christ alone for salvation. Have you done so?