



TC's Thoughts for Discussion

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My earliest childhood memories include sincere Christian mentors teaching me about the importance of "getting 'Saved'." You're likely to have learned about that, too. I was to discover, much later, that what my mentors had taught me about the character and nature of "Salvation" was one of two (2) extreme theories. I discovered that neither of those extremes comes even *close* to enjoying the support of Scripture. The pertinent, Old Testament & New Testament scriptures, serve as strong indictments of both.

The theory you may have embraced was either the same as mine or its polar opposite. Both are enormously popular. They've gained so much popularity, in fact, that we have not been able to discover any NON-extreme "Salvation" teaching within the ranks of the visible church. I have concluded that that's precisely why God knew He must leave us His Word for us, *in writing*...so that we wouldn't have to rely on the word of denominational "experts" who purport to speak for Him.

> "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man..." —Jeremiah 17:5

There are a couple of theological terms I must share if you are to discover (for yourself) that the truth about "getting 'Saved'" clearly doesn't reside with either of the two extremes. I'll try to keep this really simple, so that no one should have a problem understanding it. To accomplish that, I have underlined each word of the operative phrases for easy comparison:

> "The '**Arminian**' Theory," from Jacobus Arminius (1560–1609)—

... that each believer must be "Saved" at the point of death in order to "go to Heaven," but that a believer can "get 'Saved'" and subsequently lose his "Salvation," causing him to miss Heaven

> "The '**Calvinist**' Theory," from John Calvin (1509-1564)—

...that a believer must get "Truly 'Saved'" just once in order to "go to Heaven" upon his death and that a believer can never lose his resulting "eternal 'Salvation'," no matter what he may do, say or think afterward

Trying to understand all the history and the details of each of these extreme theories can take some time. I'll leave the *Googling* to those who'll want more info. Meanwhile, the pertinent scriptures (all of them, taken together or separately) consistently characterize "Salvation" as a FUTURE condition. Here are a few of the multiple New Testament examples of that:

> Endure to the end [*That's in the future!*] to be saved —Jesus, at Matthew 24:10-13 & Mark 13:13

> "...power to BECOME [*a future condition*] sons of God." —John 1:12

> "...SHALL BE saved" [*a future condition*] —Paul, at Romans 5:9,10

> "And that, knowing the time, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: for now [is] our salvation is nearer than when we believed [*It's in our future!*]." —Paul, at Romans 13:11

> "Wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him. For we must all appear before the [*future*] judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things DONE in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." —Paul, at 2 Corinthians 5:9,10

> "... putting on the breastplate of...the HOPE of salvation [*a future condition*]." —Paul, at 1 Thessalonians 5:8

> ...SHALL BE saved [*a future condition*] IF they continue... —Paul, at 1 Timothy 2:14,15

> ...IF we hold...steadfast to the end [*That's in the future!*]... —Hebrews 3:6-13

> DO the will of God to receive the promise [*in a future time*]. —Paul, at Hebrews 10:36

> We are kept through faith UNTO salvation [*a future condition*]. ready to be revealed in the last time [*That's in the future!*] —1 Peter 1:5

> "The END [*a future condition*] of your faith is salvation. —1 Peter 1:1-25 (v.5,9)

Proponents of the Arminian Theory are heard to sing with enthusiasm and occasional tears, "I'm Saved and I Know That I Am!" I contend – with full scriptural support – that many of them will be saved —at the Judgment. (We're told of just ONE Judgment. It's in our future! And, no, each person is not judged immediately upon his physical death.) Those who are actively *following* Christ today are pursuing eternal salvation.

Conclusion #1: The Arminian Theory is the extreme right wing of Salvation Theology.

I was a successful Bible teacher for a LOT of years—big sanctuary classes.

I knew what my denomination believed and that's what I taught.

Yes, I should've checked it out to make sure it was true.

So why didn't I do that? Well, maybe I didn't do that for the same reason that you haven't really checked out what your denomination teaches. "In religion and politics, people's beliefs and convictions are in almost every case gotten at second hand, and without examination." —Mark Twain





Followers of the gospel according to John Calvin are often heard to recite this: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." —Paul, at Romans 8:35,38,39

Upon close, fully objective examination, that passage speaks clearly of the inability of any *third-party* to negate the LOVE of Christ for them.

- > "...[Christ] became the author of eternal salvation to all that OBEY Him" Paul, at Hebrews 5:9
- > "He that sayeth, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him...he that DOETH the will of God abideth forever." —1 John 2:1-29 (Verses 4 & 17 are quoted, here.)

Further, millions of both of the extreme "Salvation" persuasions have come to the conclusion that God's GRACE will cover any lifestyle they happen to choose...or fall into. Wrong. The following should be sufficiently convincing with minimal commentary:

- > "And why call ye me Lord, Lord, and DO not the things I say?" —Luke 6:46-49 [N.T. confirmation of Ezekiel 18:20-32]
- > A good life = eternal life. An evil life = eternal death. —John 5:24-29 (v.29) [more N.T. confirmation of Ezekiel 18:20-32]
- > IF you keep my commandments, you'll never taste death. —John 8:52
- > You belong to the one you obey. —Paul, at Romans 6:16
- > Continue in his goodness or be CUT OFF. —Paul, at Romans 11:22
- > Defile your body and be destroyed. —Paul, at 1 Corinthians 3:16,17
- > "TEN (10) SPECIFIC SINFUL LIFESTYLES that will preclude future salvation —Paul, at 1 Corinthians 6:8-11
- > I won't be brought under power of any sin. —Paul, at 1 Corinthians 6:12
- > FOUR (4) SPECIFIC SINFUL LIFESTYLES that will preclude salvation —Paul, at Ephesians 5:5
- > ELEVEN (11) SPECIFIC SINFUL LIFESTYLES that will preclude salvation —Paul, at Colossians 3:5-9
- > EIGHT (8) SPECIFIC SINFUL LIFESTYLES that will preclude salvation —Revelation 21:7,8
- > DO...to gain the right to Tree of Life...and enter the city [New Jerusalem]. —Revelation 22:14
- > SIX (6) SPECIFIC SINFUL LIFESTYLES that will preclude future salvation —Revelation 22:14,15
(Note: Those who may ever have, once-upon-a-time, gotten "truly 'saved'" are NOT excluded from this lock-out.)
- > Even the DEVILS "believe." —James 2:17-26
- > "If again entangled...the latter is worse than the beginning." —2 Peter 2:20,21

And there's this surprise:


- > "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." —Paul, at 1 Timothy 4:16
If Timothy had been aligned with the centuries-later Extreme Salvation Theories of either Jacobus Arminius or John Calvin, wouldn't he have justly presumed both himself and most of his hearers to have been ALREADY "Saved?"

I would be remiss to avoid mentioning, here, that the book of Hebrews – especially chapter 6 – is extremely troubling to those sincere ones who keep trying to convince themselves that John Calvin's theory is trustworthy. (I have a recording of a well-known Calvinist theologian trying to explain it away...amusing.)

Conclusion #2: The Calvinist Theory is the extreme left wing of Salvation Theology.

Still not convinced? At this link you can find a substantial collection scriptural confirmation: www.DYPK.org/salvation. Then, you might wish to request our exhaustive scholarly research paper, "The Salvation Scriptures Objective Analyzed."

- > "MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR LACK OF [righteousnes?] [sincerity?] [worship?] [hyperspirituality?] [prayer?] [holiness?] [regular church attendance?] [believing "what 'we' believe'"] [faith?] [getting "truly 'saved'"] KNOWLEDGE." —Hosea 4:6

—T. C. Newsome 

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