

The Doctrine of Salvation

Based on Holy Scripture (KJV 1611) • Theology of Charles H. Spurgeon

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

— John 3:16 (KJV)

Introduction

At Liberty Bible Baptist Academy (LBBA), we adhere firmly to the biblical doctrine of salvation by **grace alone**, through **faith alone**, in **Christ alone**. We teach that a person’s **good works cannot save them from hell**. As the scriptures declare, *“for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,”* and we are redeemed only by His mercy, *“for by grace are ye saved.”* Salvation is the free gift of God, received entirely through faith in the precious **blood of Jesus Christ**, which was shed on Calvary for the complete forgiveness of our sins.

Theology of Grace — Charles H. Spurgeon

“ SPURGEON ON GRACE

“It is not thy hold of Christ that saves thee—it is Christ; it is not thy joy in Christ that saves thee—it is Christ; it is not even faith in Christ, though that be the instrument—it is Christ’s blood and merit.”

“If you are to be saved, you must be saved by the grace of God; you must be saved through the blood of Christ; you must be saved by the power of the Holy Ghost.”

— Charles Haddon Spurgeon

The Saving Perception

† 1. Belief in God

Before anything else, a person must genuinely believe in the existence of the Almighty God — acknowledging Him as Creator and ultimate judge to whom all humanity is accountable.

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

— Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)

♥ 2. Spiritual Bankruptcy

A person must perceive themselves as utterly helpless and lost — completely abandoning any hope that good works or moral efforts can earn salvation. Our own merits are entirely worthless.

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags...”

— Isaiah 64:6 (KJV)

⚓ 3. Absolute Trust in Christ

The mind must shift its reliance entirely from self to Jesus Christ — resting in the truth that Christ’s shed blood and finished work on the cross is the *only* acceptable payment for sin.

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

— Proverbs 3:5 (KJV)

☐ Written Before the Foundation of the World

Before the foundation of the world, God inscribed every name in the **Book of Life**. By His sovereign design, every person born enters this world with their name already written — God’s original intention is for all mankind to dwell with Him in eternity. However, when a person dies *unsaved*, their name is blotted out of the Book of Life, and they are cast into the lake of fire.

“...whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” — **Revelation 13:8 (KJV)**

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” — **Revelation 20:15 (KJV)**

“He that overcometh... I will not blot out his name out of the book of life...” — **Revelation 3:5 (KJV)**

Who is “the Overcomer”?

The overcomer is **NOT** someone who earns salvation through good works. The overcomer is simply **any person who believes in Jesus Christ**. Faith itself is the victory — not performance.

*“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our **faith**. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” — 1 John 5:4-5 (KJV)*

The Five Pillars of Salvation

These foundational truths guide our curriculum and daily instruction.

PILLAR 1

Creation

God created man in His own image to have perfect fellowship with Him. The universe and everything in it were flawlessly designed by the Creator's hand.

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

— **Genesis 1:27 (KJV)**

PILLAR 2

Sin

Man chose to disobey God, breaking that divine fellowship. This original sin brought spiritual and physical death, separating humanity entirely from a holy God.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

— **Romans 3:23 (KJV)**

PILLAR 3

Repentance

A genuine *change of mind* (metanoia) about sin and about Christ — not a behavioral commitment, but acknowledging one's lost state and turning all trust to God alone.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

— **Acts 3:19 (KJV)**

PILLAR 4

Acceptance

Receiving Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior by faith alone — trusting entirely in His finished work on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

— **Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)**

▣ Pillar 5 — Assurance

The absolute certainty of eternal life. Once saved, the believer is eternally secure, held in the Father's hand, and sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption.

Relationship vs. Fellowship

When a saved person sins, it does not destroy their **Relationship** with God (sonship). Just as a child who disobeys remains their father's child, the spiritual birth cannot be undone. However, sin does break their **Fellowship** (daily communion) with God until confessed.

The Believer's Remedy

When a saved person sins, they do not need to be *re-saved*. They need only to confess their sin to restore daily fellowship. Salvation was secured at the cross; confession restores the *walk*, not the *standing*.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." — **1 John 1:9 (KJV)**

The Father's Discipline

God does not abandon His children when they sin. He lovingly corrects and chastises them as a Father. A believer's eternal soul remains perfectly secure in the Father's hand regardless of their failures.

"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth..." — **Hebrews 12:6 (KJV)**

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

— **John 10:28 (KJV)**

God’s Fatherly Chastisement

What happens when a saved person keeps on sinning?

“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.” — **Hebrews 12:6 (KJV)**

⚠️ “But if ye be without chastisement... then are ye bastards, and not sons.” — **Hebrews 12:8 (KJV)**

God’s chastisement is never about **condemnation** — the saved person’s soul remains eternally secure. It is the loving correction of a Father who refuses to allow His child to continue dishonoring His name. The presence of chastisement is actually **proof of sonship**: God only disciplines those who are truly His.

LEVEL 1 — LIGHT
Verbal Warning

God first speaks to the saved person’s conscience through the Holy Spirit, Scripture, a sermon, or a godly friend. This is the softest form — a loving warning to stop before consequences follow.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God...for reproof, for correction...” — **2 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)**

LEVEL 2 — MODERATE
Active Chastisement

If warnings are ignored, God applies direct and increasing discipline — sickness, broken relationships, loss of finances, peace, or joy. The goal is always **restoration**, never destruction.

“For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.” — **1 Corinthians 11:30 (KJV)**

LEVEL 3 — SEVERE
Physical Death

If a saved person *persistently* continues in serious sin, God can sovereignly take that believer home early. This is **not condemnation** — the soul is eternally saved. God refuses to let His child further dishonor His name.

“There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.” — **1 John 5:16 (KJV)**

Chastisement ≠ Condemnation

Category	God’s Chastisement (Saved)	God’s Condemnation (Unsaved)
Directed at	Sons (saved believers)	Unbelievers
Purpose	Restoration	Punishment
Worst outcome	Physical death — soul eternally safe	Lake of fire — soul eternally lost
Motivated by	Love	Rejected grace

“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless **afterward** it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” — **Hebrews 12:11 (KJV)**

False Assurance

How can a person know they are not truly saved? Because salvation is by grace alone and saved believers still sin, we cannot look solely at outward behavior to prove someone is lost. According to Scripture, the true indications of an unsaved state are rooted in **what they trust** and the **presence of the Holy Spirit**.

1. Trusting in Good Works
Self-Righteousness

If someone believes they will go to heaven because they are a “good person,” go to church, or keep the commandments, they are trusting in themselves, not Christ.

“I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.”
— Galatians 2:21 (KJV)

2. Sinning Without Conviction
No Divine Discipline

A saved person will be disciplined by God. If a person can live in continuous, willful sin with zero internal guilt and zero divine chastisement, they do not belong to the Father.

“But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.”
— Hebrews 12:8 (KJV)

3. No Witness of the Spirit
Lack of Inner Knowing

When truly saved, the Holy Spirit gives an internal, spiritual assurance of sonship. An unsaved person lacks this completely, having only external religion or indifference.

“Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”
— Romans 8:9 (KJV)

4. Rejection of the Gospel
Spiritual Blindness

An unsaved mind is naturally blind to truth. They might like a generic “god,” but will reject the biblical Jesus, finding the true Gospel of grace either foolish or offensive.

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him...”
— 1 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV)

The Litmus Test: The ultimate test is not “Are they sinning?” but rather, **Are they resting 100% on Christ’s shed blood,** and **when they sin, does the Spirit bring conviction?**

The Sinner’s Prayer

☐ A Prayer of Faith

If you believe you are a sinner in need of God’s salvation, you can receive Jesus Christ right now by praying sincerely from your heart.

“Heavenly Father, I come before You as a sinner. I confess that I have sinned against You and that I cannot save myself by anything I do. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, that He died on the cross and shed His precious blood to pay for my sins, and that He rose again from the dead.

Right now, I change my mind about my sin — I agree with You that I am lost and in need of Your mercy. I put my complete trust in Jesus Christ alone as my personal Lord and Savior. I am not trusting in my good works, my religion, or my own efforts — only in Christ and what He has already done.

I ask You to forgive me of all my sins and to write my name in the Book of Life. I receive You, Lord Jesus, into my heart right now by faith. Thank You for saving me by Your grace. Help me to live for You from this day forward.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.”

*There are no magic words — **God hears the sincere heart.** If you prayed this in faith, you are saved by the grace of God.*

*“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” — **Romans 10:9 (KJV)***

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” — **Romans 10:13 (KJV)***