

**Upcoming Events**  
Budget preparations for 2020  
Thanksgiving Day: November 21  
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
Hebrews class Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

### Endurance

*“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us”.*

### November Birthdays

2 Mike Atkins      6 Ashley Tanner      10 Daniel Brown  
18 Emilia Letalu      27 Lupita Guzman

### December Birthdays

17 Bill Brown      27 Sue Tanner      29 Noah McKnight  
30 Richard Karns      31 Bob Pescador

### December Anniversaries

12 Ron & Peggy Woodruff      18 Jim & Marie Burruss

# Indio Informer

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## The Salvation of the Gospel

By Jonathan McAnulty

Jesus Christ offers salvation. He says plainly in Mark 16:16, *“He who believes and is baptized will be saved.”* He says in John 10:9, *“I am the door. He who goes in and out by me will be saved.”* Thus, the apostle Peter boldly declared that there is no other name, but the name of Jesus Christ, given under heaven by which men *“must be saved”* (Acts 4:12).

Salvation is an important part of the Gospel message. Cornelius was told by God to send to Joppa for Peter, who would give him “words” by which he and all his household would “be saved.” (Acts 11:14), Peter preached the Gospel to that house, the words of Christ. Concerning the word of God, Paul reminded Timothy that it was able to make one wise unto salvation (cf. 2 Timothy 3:15), and elsewhere he declared to the church at Rome that the Gospel of Christ was the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16).

With all that in mind, a question comes... when exactly is one saved through the Gospel of Christ? There is a great deal of confusion about this in the minds of some, and there are those who will tell you they have been saved, but who, when they begin reading and studying the scriptures have to wonder if such is actually the case.

One of the things that we should probably note first is that there are at least two senses in which Jesus provides salvation. This is because there are at least two things that Jesus saves us from.

In the first place, Jesus saves us from sin. Sin is a blot on our soul and separates us from a right relationship with God (cf. Isaiah 59:1-2). Through the blood of Christ there is the forgiveness of

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
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sins (cf. Ephesians 1:7). Thus, it was prophesied that Jesus would save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21). Whenever we read about forgiveness in the Gospels, we are reading about a very important aspect of salvation.

In the second place, Jesus saves us from death. Not from physical death, but from an eternal and spiritual death. *“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God in Christ Jesus is eternal life”* (Romans 6:23). By removing sin, Jesus also removes the penalty from sin. For this reason, the Bible says, *“he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”* (James 5:20) This salvation from death and judgment is at the heart of the resurrection message. Jesus took on flesh, died on the cross and then rose from the dead so that we might know that He had destroyed the power of death. (cf. Hebrews 2:14) In Jesus, those who are saved from sin are subsequently saved from death and have the promise of a home in heaven (cf. John 14:1-3).

Noting then that there are two different kinds of salvation offered by Jesus, though they are very closely related to one another, when we ask the question, when does Jesus save us, we might recognize that there are two possible ways to answer the question.

Concerning the salvation from sins – Jesus saves us from our sins when He forgives us of our sins. So long as a man is still under the burden of sin, that man cannot have said to be saved from sin. Once the man is forgiven, he has found the promised salvation.

Jesus said concerning this, that the man who believes and is baptized will be saved (Mark 16:16). Peter, preaching the first gospel sermon, told his listeners they needed to be baptized for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:38). Ananias, another inspired man, told Saul that Saul needed to, *“Arise, and be baptized, and wash away [his] sins, calling on the name of the Lord”* (Acts 22:16). If we understand that it is in baptism that a man has his sins washed away, and that this forgiveness is salvation, we can then understand why the Bible says that baptism saves us (cf. 1 Peter 3:21).

But what about the second salvation – the salvation from death? When does that happen? Jesus said once to His disciples, *“But he who endures to the end will be saved”* (Matthew 10:22b; NKJV). This is in harmony with what Jesus says elsewhere, *“He who is faithful unto death will receive a crown of life”* (Revelation 2:10). That crown of life is the promise of eternal life.

So the Bible teaches that Jesus saves us from our sins and brings us into a right relationship with God when we obey the Gospel and have those sins washed away. Then, as we remain faithful to the Gospel, we later, sharing in the resurrection, have a part in an eternal salvation from condemnation.

Which is why Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *“moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you...”* (1 Corinthians 15:1-2a; NKJV).

## **The Duty of the Prophet**

By Tim Dooley

As we read from the prophet Ezekiel, we should be aware that while God is preparing Ezekiel to prophesy to the rebellious people of Israel, he is also given a profound and dire warning. If the man of God (Ezekiel particularly in this case) fails to warn the sinner of God’s judgment, then the sinner will be lost and the man of God (Ezekiel) will also be held accountable. However, if the man of God faithfully proclaims God’s warning, and the sinner refuses to repent, then the sinner will be lost but the man of God will be justified (Ezekiel 3:18-21).

Let us not however think that this warning is only for the inspired prophets of old. The apostle Paul said *“Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences”* (2 Corinthians 5:11) While we don’t have the right or the authority to condemn sinners, we do have a responsibility to warn sinners from their evil ways and declare unto them the judgments of God.

Love the sinner and hate the sin, enough to share the truth of God.  
This, too, is part of being faithful.